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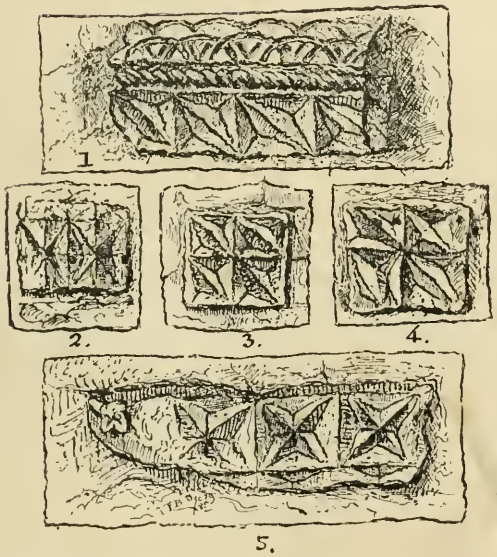
VIEW OF CHURCH FROM VILLAGE.

Memorials of Herne, Kent.

BY

THE REV. J. R. BUCHANAN, VICAR.

THIRD EDITION.



Norman Stones in Porch and Nave.

(*See page* 17.)

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TO THE

Hon. James Russell Lowell, LL.D.,

(LATE UNITED STATES MINISTER AT THE COURT OF ST. JAMES),

WHOSE LOVE FOR

THE ANCIENT AND BEAUTIFUL

IS WELL KNOWN AND APPRECIATED IN

THE MOTHER COUNTRY,

THIS LITTLE BOOK

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

DEERFOOT FARM,
SOUTHBOROUGH,
MASSACHUSETTS,
Jan. 12*th*, 1887.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,

I accept with pleasure the dedication of your work, the MEMORIALS OF HERNE, KENT, and feel highly honoured by it.

I certainly do take great interest in your ancient buildings, not only for their own intrinsic worth, but also because they are a permanent link between our two countries.

Your Churchyards are the richer for dust that belongs to us as well as you.

Faithfully yours,

J. R. LOWELL.

The Rev. J. R. BUCHANAN.

PREFACE.

IN offering the MEMORIALS OF HERNE to the public I do not pretend to have very much knowledge of archæology, including as that vast subject does in its legitimate sphere, palæography, heraldry, and architecture. I have simply endeavoured to collect from various sources, a brief but comprehensive history of the parish, and to furnish the visitor with a guide to the Church which will indicate and explain its chief points of interest. I also earnestly hope (Herne Church being so well and widely known), by calling attention to the deplorable condition of the *North Aisle—the only part now in need of repair*—to obtain some assistance towards a new roof.

I am indebted to Hasted's account of Herne, in his "History of Kent," Duncombe's "History of Herne and Reculver" (published in Nichol's Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica), and a miscellaneous collection by the late Charles Devon (Public Record Office), kindly lent me by Mr. Edward White, of Herne Bay, for much valuable information.

My thanks are due, and are here gratefully tendered, to the following gentlemen for advice and assistance: W. de Gray Birch, F.S.A., and G. K. Fortescue (British Museum), James Gairdner (Public Record Office), J. Challoner Smith (Somerset House), S. W. Kershaw, F.S.A. (Lambeth Palace Library), and Charles Welch (Guildhall Library). I am sure if the clergy knew the willingness of the learned in high places to help amateur authors, who have a good object in view, there would be many more and better parochial histories written.

Mr. Kershaw has for some years been collecting information of

every kind relating to Kent, and as there is no fund for that purpose, he is glad to receive any gratuitous additions to his store.

I also beg to thank Dr. Sheppard of Canterbury, for pointing out some very interesting particulars, and translating some, to me, difficult ancient manuscripts; Francis Butler, architect, for the beautiful plates which embellish the work; and Henry Grey, churchwarden, for assistance in translating the inscriptions on the Brasses, and careful revision for the press.

And lastly, I beg most sincerely to thank the Lord Mayor, Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., F.S.A., Alderman Sir John Staples, F.S.A., Deputy East, James Judd, and Major G. Lambert, F.S.A., for their kind and generous acknowledgment of the distinct claim which Herne Church undoubtedly has upon the citizens of London.

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MEMORIALS OF HERNE, KENT.

CHAPTER I.

Reculver.

DEEPLY interesting as the Church at Herne undoubtedly is, it must be acknowledged at the outset that it yields place in most things to the Mother Church of Reculver, to which it has ever been, and is now, tributary. The two Churches are so intimately connected that, without some preliminary account of Reculver, the history of Herne would be incomplete and even unintelligible.

Reculver is famous, not only for its Early Christian Church, but also for its ancient Roman Camp, said to have been erected in the third century by the Emperor Septimius Severus.*

Among the time-worn ruins of the ancient castle is a fig-tree (*ficus carica*) of Italian origin, which according to the traditions of the neighbourhood, was planted by the Romans, and must therefore be between 1385 and 1888 years old.†

In Leland's time (1530—7), the village of Reculver stood "withyn a quarter of a myle or a little more of the se syde."‡

It is called by the Venerable Bede "Raculfcestre, and Raculfmenstre."§

* Roach Smith's Antiquities of Reculver. p. 193.
† Albion, 1833.
‡ Itin. 3rd Ed. p. 1. 9.
§ Bede Eccles. Hist., 1, 5, 9.

While the earliest record of Herne Church dates only from A.D. 1236, that of Reculver, dedicated to St. Mary, goes as far back as A.D. 669, when Egbert, King of Kent, "gave to one Basse, formerly one of his noblemen, now a priest, some land, "whereupon to build a monastery dedicated to the Blessed Virgin "Mary."*

"Berhtwald," eighth Archbishop of Canterbury (A.D. 693), "was abbot of Reculver."

RECULVER CHURCH TOWERS.

In A.D. 949 the Church of Reculver was annexed to Christ Church, Canterbury, by grant of King Edred.†

This grant is of considerable local importance, for appended to it is an enumeration of lands in the immediate neighbourhood and their boundaries, which in many instances have been identified. It is also of historical interest, being prepared by the

* Tanner's Notitia, Kent, lxviii.
† Brit. Museum, MS. (Cotton, Aug. II, Art. 57.)

celebrated Dunstan, Abbot of Glastonbury, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, who subscribes himself "Indignus Abbas." Although now in the Hundred of Blengate, Reculver, at the time of the Conquest, was a Hundred by itself, and in a flourishing condition.*

Reculver was of old the Mother Church of Hoath, Herne, and (in Thanet) St. Nicholas, and All Saints. Upon these three last, "in signum subjectionis" (*i.e.*, in token of subjection), an annual pension was imposed.† By the same decree it was enacted "that "the vicars of these parishes, together with their clergy and "parishioners, should attend the customary processions, and "office of the Mass, at Whitsuntide and Christmas, and that "they should pay to the Vicar of Reculver, 'Obsequium con-"veniens cum reverentiâ et honore' (suitable deference, with "reverence and honour)."

The Rev. Francis Green, a former vicar of Reculver, in a letter without date, but between 1695 and 1715, thus writes:— "It is certain the Church of Reculver is one of the most ancient "in Kent, and (if any credit is to be given to an inscription "in the south-east part of the church) King Ethelbert was "buried there. The Church of Reculver is lofty and well "built; it has two steeples in front, one of which contains "four bells. It has two stately pillars to support its entrance, "and a curious ascent to the Altar,‡ so that it is exceeded "by few in Kent." Further on he writes, "My church, by "the ill neighbourhood of the sea, and being too indulgent a "mother in giving large portions to her two daughters, Herne "and St. Nicholas, is now the poorest of the three."§

But although Reculver was without doubt (as Mr. Green states) "an indulgent mother," it is humiliating for the Vicar of Herne to have to confess that his Parish was a very ungrateful and refractory daughter. Trifling and inadequate as were the imposts levied, both parson and people continually tried to evade them.

In 1334 there was a dispute about the burial of the Archbishop's tenants "in capite," in which the decision was in favour of Reculver.‖ Twice, in 1335, the parishioners of Herne were

* Domesday, 1, 3, 6.

† Reg. Winchelsey, f. 30. The Vicar of Herne still pays the pension imposed, "quadraginta solidos" (40s.), the churchwardens 5s.

‡ For full description, see Leland's Itin. vii., 137.

§ Notitia Parochialis, No. 1,616, Lambeth Lib.

‖ Reg. Stratford (Lambeth) Feb. 1334.

threatened with excommunication because they refused to bear their proportion of the repairs of the Mother Church,* and in 1637 Archbishop Laud was directed to proceed with all expedition "in "a cause pending between the inhabitants of Reculver and Herne, "touching the repair of the Church and Steeple of Reculver." †

In the year 1809, under the pretext of the impossibility of resisting the encroachments of the sea, this Church was shamefully destroyed by those who were its appointed guardians, and a miserable building erected in its place at Hillborough, so badly constructed that it only lasted 65 years.

Mr. C. Roach Smith thus eloquently writes concerning its destruction :

"This Church had special claims for preservation.

"The Roman architecture gave it a distinctive feature of remote "antiquity, of which it would be difficult to find another example "in this country. It stood as a monument of the downfall of "Paganism and the triumph of Christianity; upwards of a "thousand years our forefathers had preserved, endowed, and "repaired it; generation after generation had called it theirs, and "within its walls had ratified the obligations of social life; they "had died, and were buried about it. Tradition hallowed it as "the burial-place of Ethelbert, who received and protected "Augustine. Monuments of rich and influential families, whose "near relatives lay there interred, stood within and around its "walls.

"The Church, at the commencement of the present century, "though it had been neglected and was dilapidated, might have "been easily repaired, but the gentry and clergy abandoned it to "jobbers and speculators, who seized upon the venerable pile, "tore it to pieces, and divided the spoil; and old people, who "remember the circumstances, tell how the bells fell to the share "of one, the lead to another, recount the prices at which the "materials were sold, and relate how, ere long, the curse of "Heaven fell on all the destroyers of the Church; that nothing "prospered with them, and that, at last, they and their families "came to misery and ruin." ‡

Those who are inclined to go into the repulsive details of this shameful destruction should consult the "Gentleman's Magazine"

* Reg. Stratford (Lambeth) March, 1335.

† Reg. Laud, p. i., fol. 286 a. b.

‡ Antiq. of Reculver, p. 200.

for the years 1808—1810; one contributor to which writes, "Time "was, when a man was famous as he assisted in adorning the "House of God; but now they break down the carved work with "axes and hammers," and another, "Some beautiful brasses have "been stolen within these two months;" and another (accompanying his remark by an illustration), "The old vicarage house has "been converted into a gin and beer shop, and christened 'The "Hoy.'"*

These statements are further corroborated by the testimony of the Parish Clerk (in his own handwriting): "1805, Reculver "Church and Village stood in safetey; 1806, the sea begun to "make a little incroach on the willage; 1807, the farmers begun "take up the seaside stonework, and sold it to the Margate "Pier Compney for a foundation for the new peir, and the "timber by action [auction], as it was good oak fit for their "hoame use, and than the willage became a total rack to the "mercy of the sea.

"Oct. 13th, 1802.—The Chapel house fell down [here some "connecting remarks are wanting]. This being all dun and "spread abroad, the people come from all parts to see the ruines "of village and the church. Mr. C. C. nailor been Vicar of the "parish, his mother fancied the church was keep for a poppet "show, and she persuaded har son to take it down, so he took "it in consideration, and named it to the farmers in the parish "about taking it down; sum was for it and sum against it; than "Mr. nailor wrote to the Bishop to know if he might have the "church took down, and is answer was, it must be dun by a ma-"jority of the people in the parish, so hafter a long time he got "the majority of one, so down come the Church.

"for it, Mr. Nailor, vicker, Mr. Tom denne, Reculver, Mr. "W. Staines, Brooke, Mr. Tom Fix, hilbrow:—Against it, Mr. "Wm. Brown, Reculver, Mr. Step. Sayer, Bishopstone, Mr. "Brett, Clark to the old church 40 years.

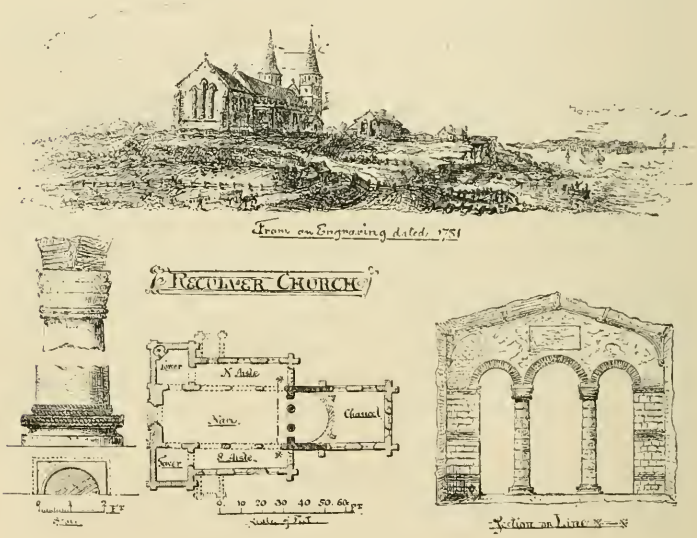
"The last tax [text] that Mr. nailor took was these words, Let "your ways be the ways of rightness, and your path the peace, "and down come the church, and whot wos is thoats about is "flock that day no one knows."†

* "The Hoy and Anchor," according to the late Mr. Frank Buckland, who states that he discovered the old signboard and saved it from destruction, Oct. 3rd, 1865.—*Land and Water*, *May*, 1871.

† "Reculver Church," by George Dowker, p. 10.

Of this church, it is sad to record, little now is left from the hands of the destroyer. The towers, west doorway, with wall and gable above, a portion of the walls of the chancel, and little more than the foundations of the nave and aisles, are all that remain, *in situ*, of this ancient and interesting structure. For the preservation of these ruins even as they are, the country (for the interest is national) is indebted to the Corporation of Trinity House.

In 1809 the Brethren arranged to expend £500 upon groynes "to preserve the towers of the ancient church, as the most "distinguishing landmark for that part of the coast."



In 1811 they purchased of the Vicar (Rev. C. Naylor) and the Churchwardens the towers V. C. for £100; and in 1866, "to "prevent the further fall of the cliff and the depredations of "persons taking away the bones jutting thereupon" [the writer has seen full-length skeletons, very long, exposed to view, probably those of the Danes or Jutes who perished in predatory incursions], "covered the entire hill with granite."

But besides the ruins of Reculver, already described, and far exceeding them in archæological (I should rather say national) interest, are the two Roman columns of the chancel arch (see

plate), part of the old Basilica, happily discovered uninjured by that distinguished labourer in the cause of science, Dr. Sheppard, which are now safely preserved in the precincts of Canterbury Cathedral.*

Is it not to be regretted that these remarkable relics—I believe absolutely unique—are not restored to Reculver, and replaced upon their own foundations, which yet remain?

* Arch. Cant., vol. iii., p. 135-6.

CHAPTER II.

Parish of Herne.

HERNE, or Hearn, is situated in the north part of Kent. The church, which is in the centre of the parish, is six miles north of Canterbury, on the high road, and two miles south of Herne Bay

VIEW OF VILLAGE FROM CHURCH PORCH.

It is also written in ancient documents "Hierne," "Hyerne," "Huerne," "Heron," "Heren," and "Henn."

Hasted * and Ireland † derive it from the Saxon Hyrne or Hurne, a corner; Philpot "from the breeding of Hernes ‡ there."

* Vol. iii., p. 617. † Vol. ., p. 410. ‡ Villare Cantianum, Index, p. 397.

It has an area of 4,829 acres, and a population of 4,259. Besides the Parish Church, there is another, Christ Church, with an ecclesiastical district assigned to it—the well-known and now rapidly improving and increasing watering place, *Herne Bay*.

There is no doubt that in former times, when families of wealth and influence occupied the different mansions that then existed, the parish was both populous and flourishing.

Archbishop Islip (1352) obtained a grant of a market and fair; "the market to be held weekly, on a Monday, and a fair yearly, on the feast of St. Martin and the day afterwards."* Bishop Ridley, in his farewell to Herne, addresses it as "thou worshipful and wealthy parish."

It is usually divided into five boroughs—"Hampton," "Thornden," "Stroud," "Hawe," and "Beltinge;" associated, some of them, with the names of distinguished families, of which nothing now remains but memory. But besides these, there were other places of note, now almost forgotten.

PLACES OF NOTE.

Hawe.—The manor house of Hawe, or Haghe, situated in a valley, about a third of a mile east of the church, was one of the most remarkable. It was surrounded by a moat, which still exists. In the reign of Richard II. (1337—99) it was held by Sir William Waleys, whose only daughter Elizabeth carried it by marriage to Sir Peter Halle (See Brass, No. 1) "whose grandson, Matthew sold his interest to Sir John Fineux, who rebuilded the mansion and afterwards retired to it."†

"Matthew Philip, Citizen, Goldsmith, and Mayor of the City of London," also possessed it, together with the Manor of Underdown. (See Brass III., and Old Wills.)

The reason asigned by Leland for the selection of this spot by Sir John Fineux as his dwelling-place is interesting, and must be very gratifying to the parishioners at the present time, as it corroborates the favourable testimony which the Registrar General has repeatedly given as to the healthiness of the locality. "Olde "Finioux buildid his faire house on purchasid ground for the "comodite of preservinge his healthe, so that afore the physicians "concludid that it was an exceeding helthful quarter."‡

* Pat. Anno 25 Edw. III., N. 31.
† Hasted, vol. iii., 617. ‡ Itin., vol. vi., p. 8.

Of this manor nothing now remains but the moat, some outbuildings of interesting fifteenth century brickwork, and some pieces of a moulded doorway of the Tudor period, which, in all probability, belonged to the "faire house" of Sir John Fineux.*

Stroud, or Strode (formerly Seas or Atte-Seas Court) is situated in the park close by the church. Philpot, in his description of this manor (A.D. 1559), tells us that "for some ages it owned the "name and interest of At Sea, till fate and time, that are the "common sepulchre of families, by sale gave up the fee simple, an "age or two since, to Knowler."† The Knowlers were a family of great distinction, who ultimately became possessed of large estates, not only in Herne, but also in Hoath and Chislet.

The family of "Churche" was also connected with this borough. "James à Churche made a grant of sixteen pence a year at Le "Platts, in Strode burgh, to the Hospital of Harbledown, 13th March, 1492,"‡ and on the 23rd of the same month and year, another bequest of "eightpence yearly out of a messuage and "3 acres of land in Strode borough in Herne."§

A view of the old house ("the seat of Gilbert Knowler, Esq.") will be found in Duncombe's "History of Herne."‖

Underdown (at Eddington) is a manor of ancient date. "In 1335 "James Bate granted to Nicholas de Underdowne 1 acre 3 roods "at Gateheye, in Herne."¶

It was at one time in the possession of the Sea, or At-Sea, family. "John Atte Sea died possessed of it in the year 1458, as "did his descendant, William, in 1545."**

His descendant John Sea (see Brass No. 5), dying in 1604, devised his manor of Underdown to his eldest son Edward, who afterwards disposed of it to Robert Knowler, whose family had been resident in this parish as early as King Henry the Seventh's reign. Robert Knowler died, possessed of it, in 1635, and was buried in the Chantry Chapel of this church (*vide* Plate, p. 28), and his descendants continued to reside at it down to Gilbert Knowler, who resided at Stroud. It afterwards became the property of the

* These now form a bridge over a dyke between Hawe and Broomfield, across the fields.

† Villare Cantianum, p. 185.

‡ Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 92.

§ Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 93.

‖ Bib. Top. Brit. xviii., p. 98.

¶ Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 80.

** Hasted, vol. iii., p. 617.

Oxendens (a very ancient family), one of whom (Sir George) rebuilt the house.

In the several wills of this family in the Consistorial Court at Canterbury, the name of Sea is never mentioned, but will be found under the heading "Manor of Underdown."

Lottinge, also written *Louting*, was formerly a small manor situated in the north-west part of the parish, belonging to the family of Greenshield, the last of whom, Henry, died without issue, and the property was sold in accordance with his will, to John Quekes, of Birchington.

Makenbrooke.—The Manor of Makenbrooke (now almost forgotten) was situated in the north-west part of the parish. It was formerly part of the ancient possessions of the See of Canterbury, and was held "by Knyte's fee." In the reign of William the Conqueror, "Vitalis de Canterbury held 12 acres (agros) and half "a suling in Macebroc of the Archbishop,"* after which it came into the possession of a family who assumed their name from it; in A.D. 1290, Archbishop Peckham received homage from Hamo de Makenbroke.†

"In the year 1544 Anthony See died seized (possessed) of it, held of the Archbishop by Knight's Service."

Ridgway, situated on a ridge a little to the south-east of the church, was also a place of some importance. "Edward Monins, "of Waldershire, by his will, proved 1553, devised to his son "Richard, and Catherine his wife, his manor, or messuage, called "Reggeway."‡ The family of Monins is very ancient, and intimately connected with Herne. Sir Simon de Monins came over with the Conqueror, and their arms (three crescents) are sculptured on one of the shields of the Font (wrongly ascribed in Simpson's "Series of Ancient Fonts" to Holowe),§ and also, together with those of Stephen Knowler, on a stone slab in the nave. This Manor now belongs to the Dering family, also very ancient and distinguished.

Thornden, situated about two miles and a half west of the Church, is a very ancient place, although there are no remains or records, except a few grants, of the families who lived there.

* MS. cited by Somner, appendix p. 45, as Domesday Book.
† Hasted, vol. iii. 619. ‡ Hasted iii. 620.
§ Perpendicular Period. Herne Church Font.

In 1332, "Richard Atte Brooke granted to Henry de Suthreye "and Christian his wife, one acre of land in the Parish of Herne "and Burgh of Thorndenne."*

In 1338, "Walter Bayli granted to Henry, son of Richard de "Suthreye, and his wife, two acres in Thorndenne Borough." †

In 1429, "John a Churche gave 8d. yearly and two acres "and a-half at Stockgrove, in Thornden, in Herne, to the Prior "of Harbledown."‡

Beltinge.—Although very little is known about Beltinge, there is no doubt that its history, if it could be discovered, would be far more ancient and interesting than that of any other place in the parish.

The name alone bespeaks its Pagan origin, being evidently derived from Bel, or Baal (the deity whose name is found in the composition of so many Tyrian and Carthaginian names. Sc. Baal-Bek.) and "ting," or "thing," an assembly, from the old Norse "tinga," to speak, and allied with the English word "think." The first syllable is found elsewhere, as in "Waldershire," (Baldershire, from the cognate Balder), and "Balham." The Northmen, according to Taylor, introduced the word "ting" into England, and it still exists among us, as in "Hastings"—"House-things."§

Mr. W. de Gray Birch thinks that "some of the barrows, or other likely places, should be opened," and believes that "careful investigation would lead to interesting results."

Rectory House "The Old Rectory" (according to Hasted), "stood in the hamlet of Eddington, opposite to Underdown. It was once a place of considerable importance, in the form of a quadrangle, one side of which only remains."‖ The Milles family (now Earl Sondes) resided in it for several generations. They were, for a great many years, the Impropriators of the great tithes, and large benefactors to the church and parish.¶

Ford House (the site of the oldest manor belonging to the See of Canterbury) is not in Herne, but in Hoath, being separated by the highway, which divides the two parishes. It is, however, such

* Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 77. † Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 79.
‡ Harbledown Private Deeds, No. 94.
§ Words and Places, p. 199. ‖ Hasted, vol. iii. p. 623.
¶ A view of the Old Vicarage House is in Duncombe's Hist. of Herne. Bib. Top. Brit. xviii., p. 98.

an ancient and remarkable place, and so intimately connected with Herne, that a brief description cannot fail to be interesting. "It consisted of about eight acres," given by Ethelbert, King of Kent, upon which a spacious edifice was built, surrounded by a moat. "There was a park belonging to the manor, of 166 acres, and also two free commons," "Hunter's Borstal" (now Forstall) and "Belting Green."* It appears from the register-book of Reculver (why Reculver and not Hoath, does not appear) that the archbishop had a chapel at Ford, "Francis, sonne of Sir Thomas Perryn, knight," being baptized there Sept. 28th, 1620.†

Another proof of this is furnished by the following entry in the register book of Herne: "Thomas, son of John Knowler, baptized at Ford, 26 April, 1607."

The difference between the opinions of some of the archbishops, as to the healthiness of Ford, is very amusing. Morton and Parker considered it "low and unhealthy," and the latter "petitioned to "have it pulled down." Cranmer evidently thought otherwise, as he frequently resided there, and was often visited by his friend Ridley, Vicar of Herne. In 1537, when the Plague raged at Lambeth, he spent a good deal of his time there, during which the Bible was first printed in English. In 1552 he was there again, and it is very remarkable that, although suffering from ague in the summer of that year, he removed to Ford in October. Whitgift also liked the place, and is said to have enjoyed hunting in the park.‡

Ford is further celebrated as having been visited by Royalty. In one of his excursions to the continent, King Henry VIII. went in his barge to Gravesend, landed there, and proceeded on horseback to Ford, where he remained the night with the Archbishop (Cranmer), and continued his journey the next day to Dover, whence he embarked.§

The place was demolished about the year 1658,‖ and some idea of its grandeur may be formed from the fact that the bricks, timber, and other materials, which were sold to any purchaser, were valued at £840.¶ *Some of the stones of the old house may, I think, be still seen in the garden immediately opposite.*

Legends and stories concerning the springs (one in the old

* Chartæ Miscellaneæ MS. Lib. Lambeth. Vol. i. 31.
† Appointed keeper of the manor and palace by Archbishop Abbot.
‡ Bib. Top. Brit., xviii. 112. § Ibid.
‖ Harris's "Hist. of Kent," p. 157. ¶ Parliamentary Survey of 1647.

palace grounds, and another, "St. Ethelburga's," in a meadow behind the house opposite), the Vineyard, and the Fishpond, still linger in the neighbourhood. The visitor, besides enjoying a pleasant walk, will be amply repaid by a sight of the objects which still remain, the interest of which is increased by the halo of antiquity which surrounds them.

Blean Union.—The Blean Union must certainly be classed with places of note. "It was built by lease of charity lands, 24th June, "1791, the contracting parties being the Rev. Joseph Price, vicar, "and eighteen parishioners, on the one part, and Thomas Reynolds "—the highest bidder at a public auction—on the other. Mr. "Reynolds gave £240 for the lease of ten acres of good land for "102 years, at the yearly rental of £2. 2s.

The Charity Commissioners, in their report (26th June, 1836), urged that compensation should be made to the poor for the injury which this transaction effected, and the money invested in the funds on their behalf, and with this view they certified the case to the Attorney-General.*

A worse case of wrong could scarcely be found; and this is only one among many! At the last Inspection (1873), the Commissioner expressed a fear that through the neglect of the authorities (vicars, churchwardens, and overseers), the value of the benefactions on behalf of the church and poor had dwindled down into a mere rent charge. (See Old Wills.)

It ought further to be stated that *the poor were not only* defrauded of money, *but also of light*, for the Blean Union, as at first built, was absolutely without a window in the outside walls.

In Queen Elizabeth's reign a beacon was fixed in this parish on the hill where the Windmill now stands, as appears by a chart of the beacons in Lambard's Perambulation, drawn by the direction of Sir William Brook, Lord Cobham, Lord Lieutenant of the county.†

The parishioners of Herne, both gentle and simple, have ever been fond of sports and pastimes. It has been already stated that even an archbishop (Whitgift) enjoyed hunting, of which the parishioners are to this day very fond. In the middle ages archery was evidently practised.‡ Sometimes these pastimes

* A. Kent, Herne Charities. † Bib. Top. Brit., xviii., 109.
‡ See Parish Register 1572.

were of an intellectual, and even dramatic character. Canon Scott Robertson, in his "Passion Play and Interludes," writes: "Few records in Kent give us so plain a proof of the "general prevalence, even in small parishes, of these Passion "Plays, or Mysteries, as do the Archives of Romney and Lydd. ". . . The distance of the parish of Herne did not prevent its "players from making their way to Romney and Lydd, where they "knew that appreciative audiences would be found, and where "the municipal authorities would not only pay the customary fee "of 6s. 8d., but would be liberal in their distribution of wine, "bread, beer, and other refreshments."*

The parishioners of Herne were equally disposed to acknowledge and remunerate the services of other actors, for in the records of the corporation of New Romney there is an item:— "7, 8 Hen. vi. (1429-30), Given to certain persons coming to "Hyerne with a certain play, 10s. 8d."†

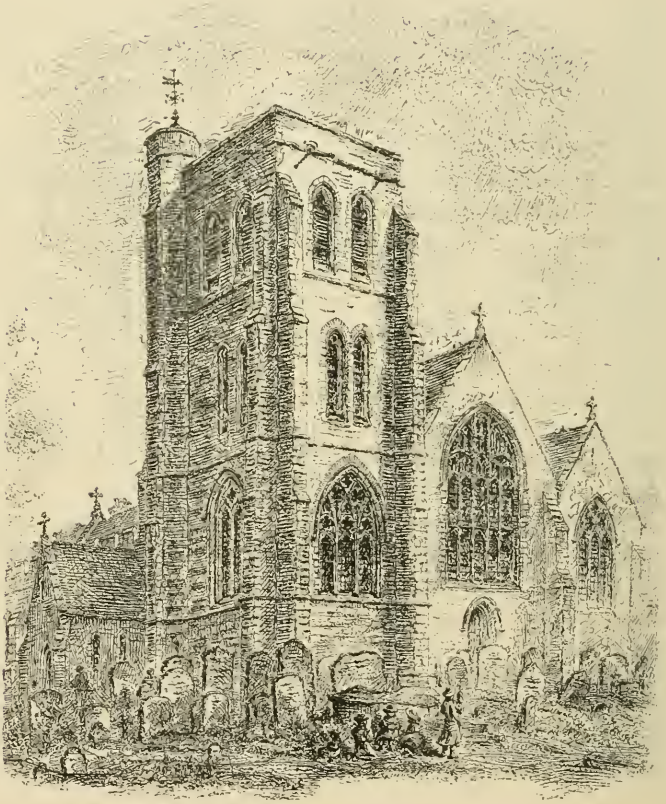
Three hundred years afterwards it would appear from the following advertisement that popular taste had somewhat degenerated:—

"To all Gentlemen of Diversion, &c. At Daniel Dering's, at "the sign of 'the Rose and Man of War,' Hearn, on Thursday "next, there will be a Hog dressed whole (barbecued) and given "away; with cock-fighting and other entertainments."‡

The love of sport stills exists in the parish, but it is happily improved, owing, no doubt, to the benign influence of education.

In 1866, in the face of great difficulties and discouragements, National Schools were built for the numerous children running about wild; and, as sympathetic, generous, and encouraging promoters, three names deserve to be recorded—William Richards, and Charles Jacomb, of Upper Clapton, and George John, Lord Sondes, all now no more. "They rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

* Arch. Cant., vol. xiii., p. 225.
† Hist. MS. Comm., vol. v., p. 437. ‡ *Kentish Post*, July 15th, 1747.



THE PARISH CHURCH, HERNE, KENT.

CHAPTER III.

The Church of Herne.

THE church, "dedicated to St. Martin of Tours" (see p. 16), consists of nave, north and south aisles, chancel, north and south chantry chapels, and tower at the north-west angle. It is in the Hundred of Blean, the Deanery of Westbere, and the Diocese of Canterbury. The Archbishop is patron, and it is exempt from the archdeacon's jurisdiction. Its value, in the king's books, is £20 16s. 3d., and yearly tenths £2 1s. 7¾d."*

There was, without doubt, a much older church than that now existing, and some of its stones of Norman date, moulded and carved, may be seen in the walls of the porch and west front of the present nave.

Besides the evidence afforded by deeds of gift of thirteenth century date, still extant, relating to church and churchyard, further proof of the existence of an earlier church is, I think, furnished by "an archdeacon's memoranda of offences and deficiencies in the churches of Herne, St. Nicholas, and All Saints, in the thirteenth century," at least a century before any portion of the present church could have existed. The extract (indexed Herne) is very remarkable, and the severity of the archdeacon's rebuke has the ring of the prophet Isaiah; with the exception of the last clause, which tends rather to justify the sarcasm of Erasmus, "a death-bed was a friar's harvest."†

"Books are deficient, chancels out of repair, executors remiss, "and Agnes Curteys is a standing temptation to sin. *One "parishioner has been allowed to die intestate.*"‡

* Bacon's Liber Regis, p. 52. † Blunt's "Reformation," p. 42.
‡ Hist. MS. Commiss. v. 437.

As the date of the present church cannot be earlier than the middle of the fifteenth century, the archdeacon must evidently be alluding to a much older church.

The Tower.—One of the most imposing features of this church is its massive tower, of stone and faced flint, the oldest part now remaining. Its staircase is considered by Brandon "very elegant;"*

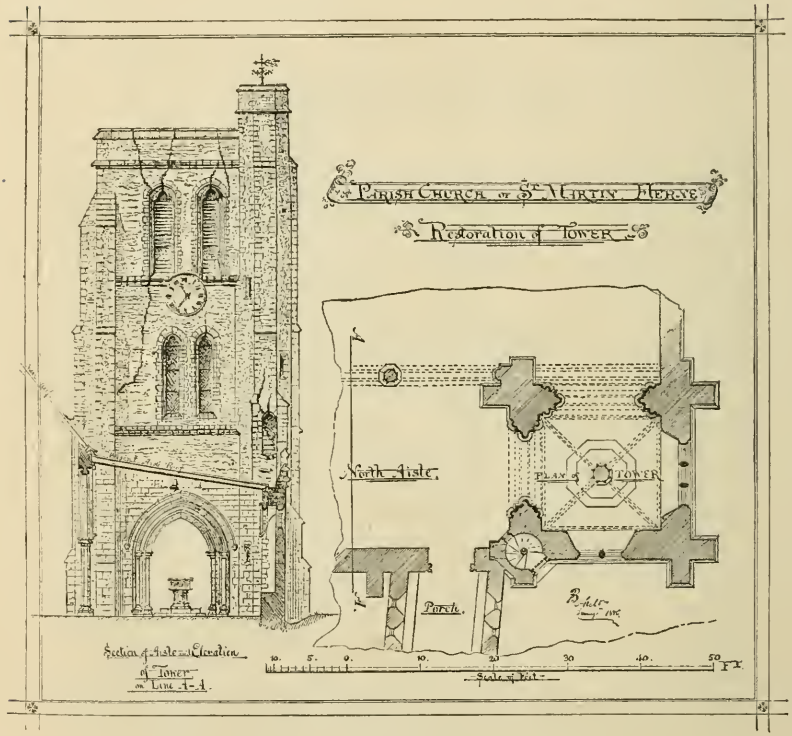

Parish Church of St Martin Herne
Restoration of Tower
North Aisle
Plan of Tower
Porch
Section of Aisle and Elevation of Tower on Line A-A
10. 5. 0. 10. 20 30 40. 50 Ft.
Scale of Feet

Plate I.—TOWER, SHOWING CRACKS AND FISSURES.

it, however, very greatly diminishes the strength of the tower, being built inside, and therefore taking the place of the two north-east angle buttresses, one of which is further weakened by a doorway being cut through it, leading from the staircase to the roof of the north aisle. (See plate I.) This is quite clear, from the threatening

* Anal. of Gothic Archi., p. 15.

cracks and fissures in the north and east faces of the Tower, and the consequent subsidence has caused the crushing of some of the mouldings in one of the baptistery arches, also in the cills of the

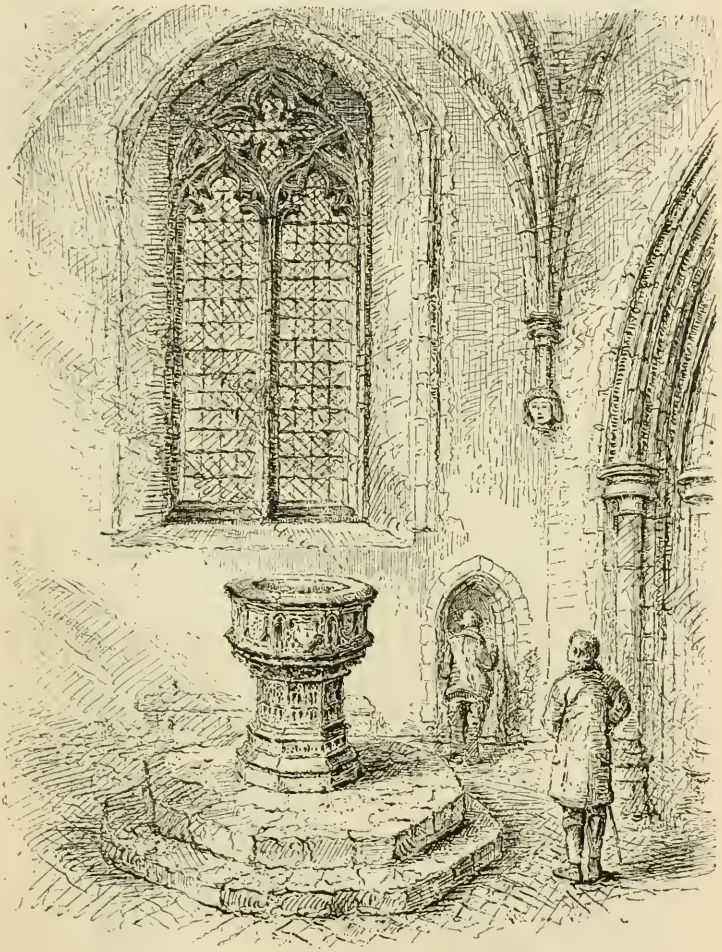


Plate 2.—THE BAPTISTERY. [*See page* 21.

staircase doorway, and windows. So ominous have these fissures and crushings at length become, that the architect has advised that the staircase doorway, and the short gallery leading into the

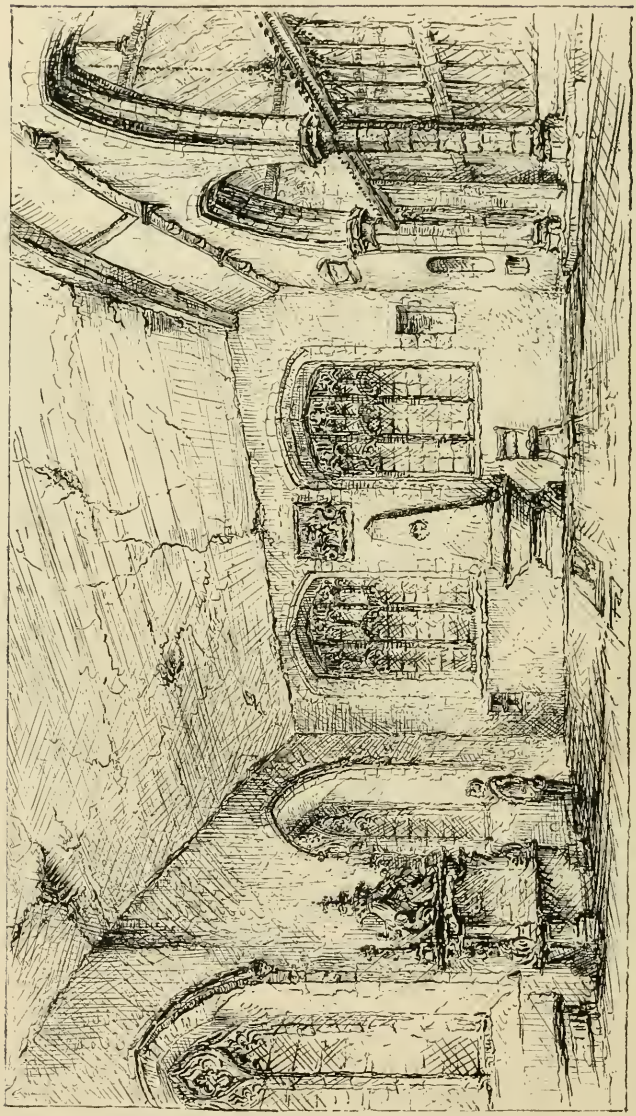


Plate 3.—NORTH CHANTRY CHAPEL (PART OF THE NORTH AISLE, SHOWING PRESENT STATE OF ROOF). [*See page 23.*
Sir Matthew Philip and his wife Christina are here buried.

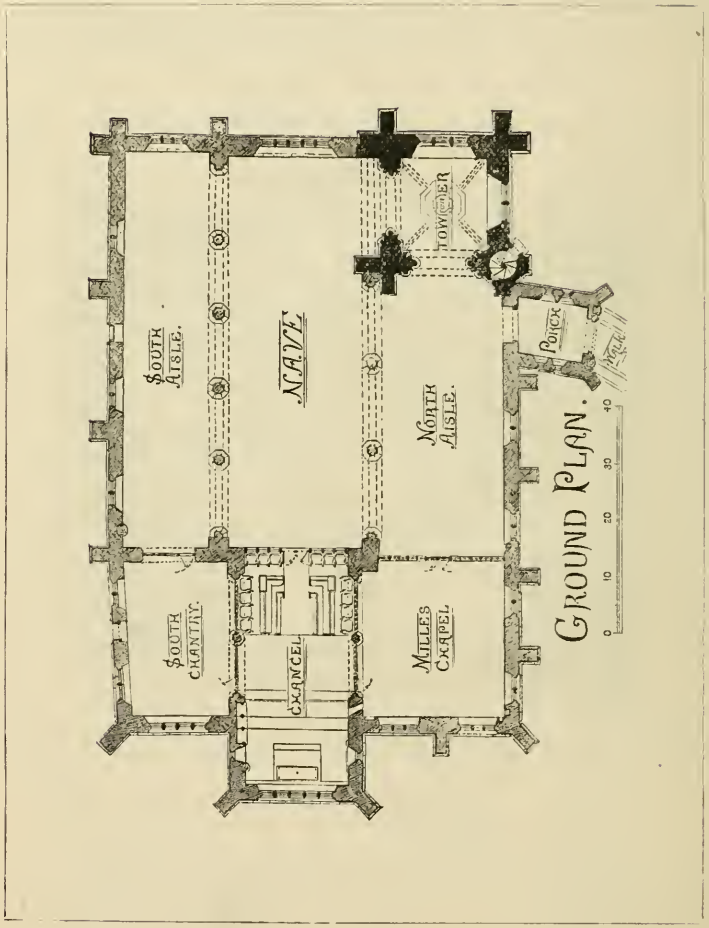
ringing chamber should be blocked up solidly with masonry, and the pier of one of the windows in the ringing chamber rebuilt, and that, until this has been done, the bells should not be rung.

Porch.—The Porch, which we will next describe, contains two stoups for Holy Water, built into the wall, one on each side of the entrance; and besides the Norman stones (the remains of the older church referred to) it has a piece of the old porch cross built into

Plate 4.—NORTH CHANTRY CHAPEL (PART OF NORTH AISLE), SHOWING PROPOSED ALTERATION.

the front wall, just above the entrance doorway. Notice, that instead of being at right angles to the church, as is usual, and as all illustrations up to the present time describe it, this porch inclines greatly to the right, thus accommodating itself to the pathway leading to the village, which probably existed in the time of the Norman church. (See Ground Plan, p. 22.)

Baptistery.—The Baptistery, which is formed by the lower stage


SOUTH AISLE.
NAVE
TOWER
PORCH
NORTH AISLE.
SOUTH CHANTRY.
CHANCEL
MILLES CHAPEL
GROUND PLAN.
0
10
20
30
40

of the tower, open to the church, is full of architectural beauty and interest. The groined roof—the characteristic corbel heads*—the large west window of Early Decorated work (described in Brandon) —the north window (remarkable as having double cuspings in the tracery),—the arches, with their fine mouldings and clustered shafts,—and last, but not least, the Font itself, are all worthy of particular notice. (See plate 2, p. 19.)

Font.—This Font formerly stood at the west end of the nave, and is of corresponding date; it is octagonal in form, with panelling and shields round the bowl, and its pedestal is enriched by delicate tracery. It was selected by Simpson (in his "Series of Ancient Fonts") as a very fine and complete specimen of the Perpendicular period.

The 1st shield bears the arms of Henry IV., quarterly—1, 4, France (modern); 2, 3, England.

The 2nd, the arms of the Monins family, three crescents.

The 3rd, Saxton. Three wings erect.

The 4th, Pelham. Three pelicans vulning themselves.

The 5th, Loveryk (almost obliterated) on a chevron, three † leopards' heads?

The 6th, Halle. Barry of 6 pieces, 3 escutcheons, 2 and 1. ‡

The 7th, Archbishop Arundel. Per pale, dexter, See of Canterbury, sinister chequey, *i.e.*, Arundel.

The 8th, symbols of the Passion. Fabulous arms, ascribed by the heralds to our Lord Jesus Christ.

By means of the first and seventh of these shields, we are enabled to fix the precise date of the font as between 1396 and 1414.

North Aisle.—The North Aisle, immediately adjoining the baptistery, is the only part of the church not restored. The visitor has only to look up at the ceiling to see the pressing need of a new roof, in place of the present unsightly lean-to one of lath and plaster, through which the rain drips at every shower. (See plate 3, p. 20.) Two mural slabs of white marble on the tower buttress, in memory of Helen Grace Loughman (née Brown) and Florence Gray (née Lee), cousins, tell a sad tale of the frailty of human life. The two windows, deeply set, and splayed with heads like those in the

* The head-dress of the one in the north-east angle closely resembles that of the wife of Sir Peter Halle. (See Brass No. I.)

† See "Brasses," No. VII., Anthony Loveryk, p. 43.

‡ See Brass No. I, Sir Peter Halle.

baptistery, are filled with stained glass; one is in memory of Rosalind Aglaia Leaf, the other (by Clayton and Bell, and the best in the church), in memory of Eliza Pegg.* William Rogers (died 1773) and John Wood (died 1831), former vicars, are buried in this aisle.

The chief point of interest in this part of the church is the fine old screen which separates the north aisle from the north chantry, or Milles's Chapel. (See plate 5, p. 25.)

Canon Scott Robertson, in a very interesting paper on Kentish Rood Screens, pronounces it to be "a screen of remarkably good "design, the top of which bears indubitable traces of a rood-loft." "We know," he adds, "that there were such rood-lofts in the side "aisles of some churches." †

This is undoubtedly true, but in this case I think he is mistaken. I am of opinion, after due consideration and consultation, that this is the original Rood-Screen which occupied the place of the modern Chancel-Screen, and the measurements and facts generally tend to prove it.

Nave.—We now come to the Nave. This is very wide, and, together with the north and south aisles, forms an exact square.

It has on the north side four pointed arches, including that of the tower; and five on the south.

The octagonal pillars, of Bethersden marble, are very light and graceful. The mouldings on the arches of the south arcade are different from those of the north.

If the visitor will here notice a peculiar, but very picturesque, arch above the tower arch of the baptistery, opening into the west end of the nave, he will have another very clear proof of the existence of a church anterior to the present one. (See plate 6, p. 26.) The nave and north aisle are evidently built up to, and even carefully fitted to, the tower; the difficulty with regard to the westernmost arch of the nave arcade (north side) being cleverly overcome in the manner described.

There was, in all probability, first a Norman church, of which

* The quality and design of the coloured glass throughout is much to be regretted in this as in so many other churches. Within the last fifty years, millions of money have been thrown away on glass of this kind, a great deal of which is now being replaced. The visitor has only to compare the Window of Clayton and Bell with some of the others, to see the truth of this.

† Arch. Cant., XIV., 371.

the stones already alluded to formed a part. To this the present tower was added about A.D. 1350, and subsequently, when the old Norman church was pulled down, leaving the tower standing, the

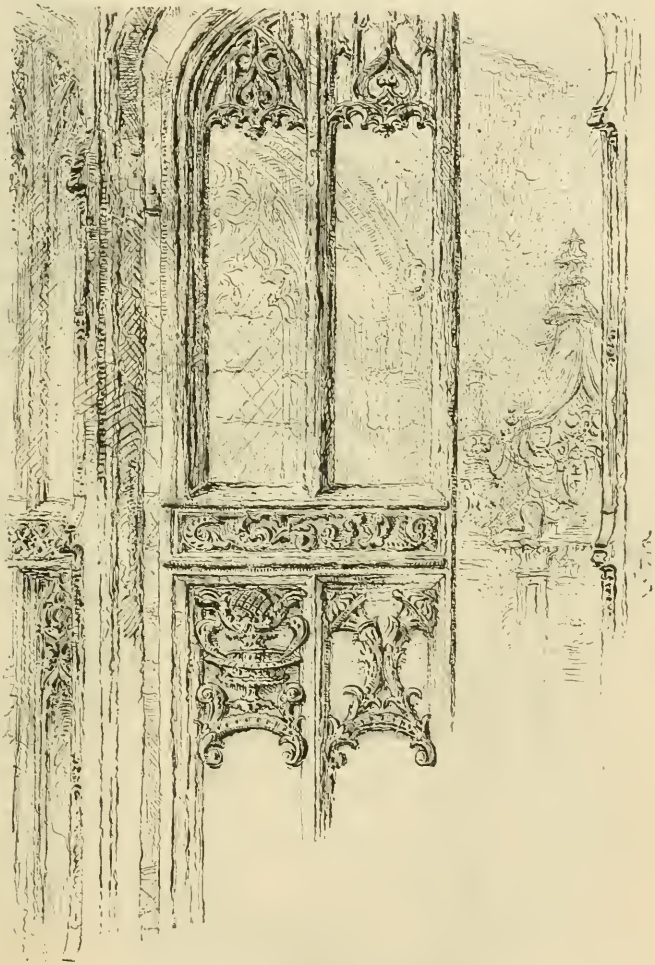


Plate 5.—OLD SCREEN. [*See page* 24.

present church was built; the date of which may be put as early in the 15th century.

Brandon, Rickman, and Sir Stephen Glynne, are all incorrect

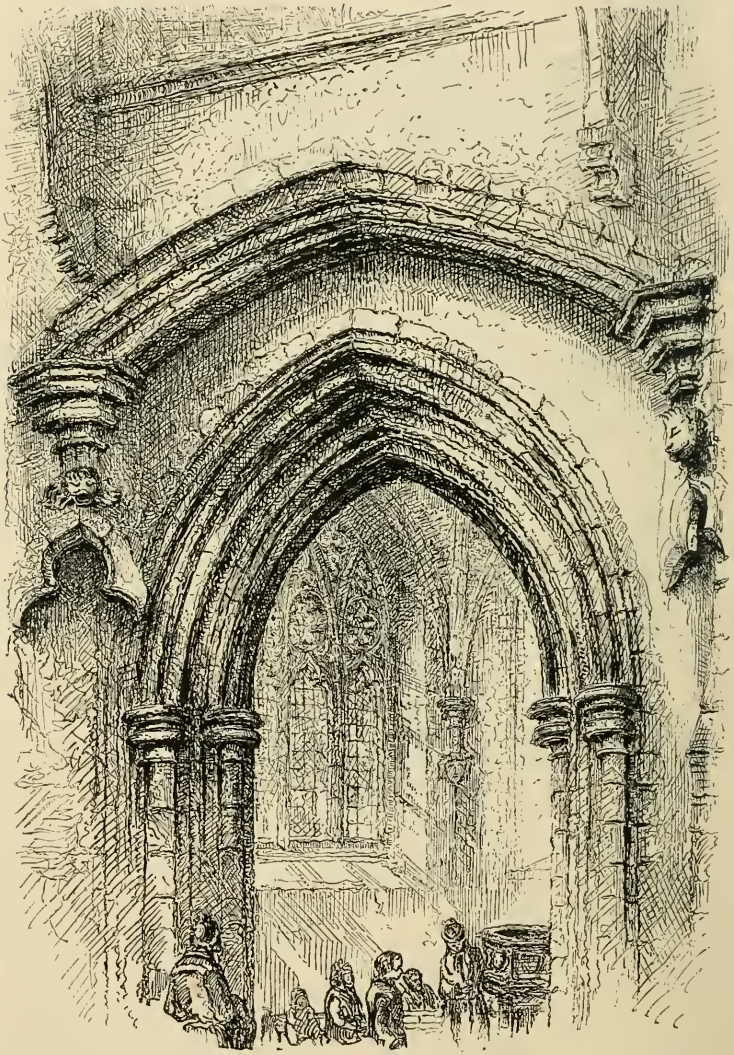


Plate 6.—PICTURESQUE ARCH. [*See page* 24.

in describing certain portions of the church as "Early English." As the late Mr. Street remarked in a paper read some years ago at the Royal Institute of British Architects,* "Mediæval archi-
"tects occasionally closely imitated the styles of previous periods
"of architecture, chiefly the Early English or lancet styles."

The lancet windows in the tower and chancel and other parts certainly resemble Early English, but Early English they are not. At the western end of the nave there is a very large window, with five lights, known to archæologists as Perpendicular, or third pointed.

At the east end is a handsome modern Chancel Screen, boldly carved. The opening in the wall at the south-east corner of the nave was anciently the means of access to the old rood-loft; the narrow passage way behind, still bears, shoulder high on the plaster work, the impress of those who passed through it more than 300 years ago. Three oak steps yet remain in the passage, and form a part of the old approach from below.

Memorial stones with inscriptions and arms mark the vaults beneath of the ancient families of "Knowler," "Monins,"† "Conyers," and "Fagg."

South Aisle.—The South Aisle contains a modern 3-light window at the west end, and along the side three ancient 2-light windows, similar to those in the north aisle, but of plainer character. These are filled with stained glass, one in memory of Edward Reynolds Collard, and two in memory of William Newton (a former Churchwarden, who took an active interest in the church), his wife, and two children.

There are also mural tablets in memory of the families of "May," "Collard," and "Belsey," and a stone statue of Bishop Ridley, "some time vicar," occupies a Gothic niche in the centre of the south wall.

An old and very interesting Piscina (place for cleansing the Holy Vessels) formerly blocked up, will be noticed in the wall near the vestry door. It has a Tudor Rose carved in the bowl.

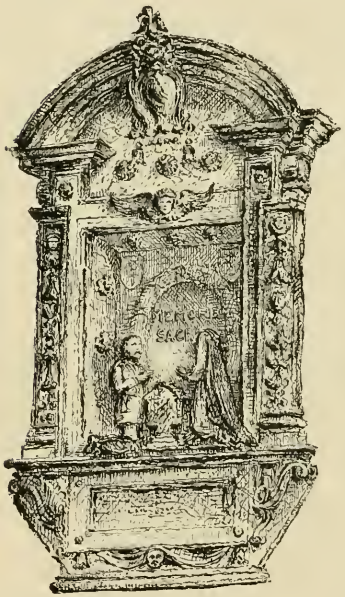
South Chantry Chapel.—The South Chantry Chapel (commonly called the "Knowler Chapel") is divided from the nave by an arch of simple but good proportions; it has a Perpendicular, or third pointed, window of four lights on the east side, and two of two lights, of the same period, on the south. The old oak roof still remains.

* 29th Nov., 1869. † With arms, three crescents, same as on font.

This chapel literally teems with monuments of the Knowlers, and also of the Pembrooks and Fairmans, with whom they are connected by marriage. The following are a few of the most important :—

1. In the south-east corner, a very handsome Jacobean mural monument, in memory of Robert Knowler of Herne (died 1635), and Susan, his wife (died 1631). (See plate.)

2. Under the organ, a black marble slab, in memory of Thomas, son of the above, a bachelor, who died 1658. He was a great benefactor. (See Old Wills.) On his gravestone it is written that "he gave £10 to buy a pulpit cloth marked "T. K., "and the communion table "cloth, and £10 to be dis- "tributed upon the day of his "burial, unto the poor, and £2 "per annum for ever to repair "the isle in which he lay, and "£5 per annum for ever to "clothe the poor of this parish, "out of his farm at Belting, in "this parish. 'The righteous "shall be held in everlasting "remembrance.'"



MURAL MONUMENT.
In memory of Robert Knowler, died 1635, *and Susanna, died* 1631.

3. Also under the organ, John Knowler, another son (died 1655), Robert, son of John (died 1693), and Elizabeth his wife (died 1693), also of Catherine, their daughter (died 1708), and of Elizabeth, another daughter (died 1724). The epitaph is still visible.

> "All must to their cold graves ;
> But the religious actions of the just
> Smell sweet in death, and blossom in the dust."

4. On a black marble slab in the centre is an inscription in memory of Gilbert Knowler, of Stroud in Herne, Knight (great grandson of the first), and his three wives—Elizabeth, daughter of

Elias Juxon; Honeywood, daughter of Vincent Denne, and Susanna, daughter of Martin Lister. The arms of all the families are duly incised.

5. In the north-west corner is a mural monument of sienna marble of Gilbert Knowler, son of last (died 1737), and Mary his wife (died 1735).

On a flat stone, under the organ, is the following curious epitaph :—

"Here lies a piece of Christ, a star in dust,
A vein of gold, a china dish which must
Be used in heaven, when God shall feed the just.*
Approved by all, and loved so well,
Though young, like fruit that's ripe he fell."

The fine organ (built by Mr. T. C. Lewis in 1870, by collections and contributions) has been recently enlarged, remodelled, and re-voiced, by Messrs. Michell and Thynne, at the expense of Mrs. Pegg, in memory of her daughter Eliza.

Chancel.—The Chancel in 1869 was quite bare, and open to the nave and north chantry chapel. The ancient choir stalls, called "Miséréré," very fine, and beautifully carved, were scattered about the church, and the sedilia, or seats for the celebrant and his assistants, were completely defaced and blocked up by the large pyramidal monument in memory of Samuel Milles (died 1727).

The end of the Subsellia (east of south side, see plate 7, page 30) struck the keynote of the restoration. By placing this in its present position, the architect, Mr. William White, was enabled to replace the other parts in their proper places, and what was missing was made good.

The monument of Samuel Milles was removed (by kind permission, and at the expense of the late Lord Sondes) to the Milles chapel (see plates 3 and 4); and the seats of the sedilia, when restored, gave the levels of ascent (seven in number) from the nave to the Altar. The Chancel was repaved with encaustic tiles, and, in addition to the new Choir stalls, a new Altar, bishop's chair, and lectern of carved oak, were provided by collection

* The first three lines are copied from an epitaph for a godly man's tomb in Wild's Iter Boreale, &c., p. 46. The following is the counterpart, for a wicked man's tomb :—

"Here lies the carcase of a cursed sinner,
Doomed to be roused for the devil's dinner."

and contribution. Miss Mary Baskerville gave a very handsome corona, in memory of her sister Jane; the Ecclesiastical Commissioners thoroughly restored the roof; and Mrs. Frances Louisa

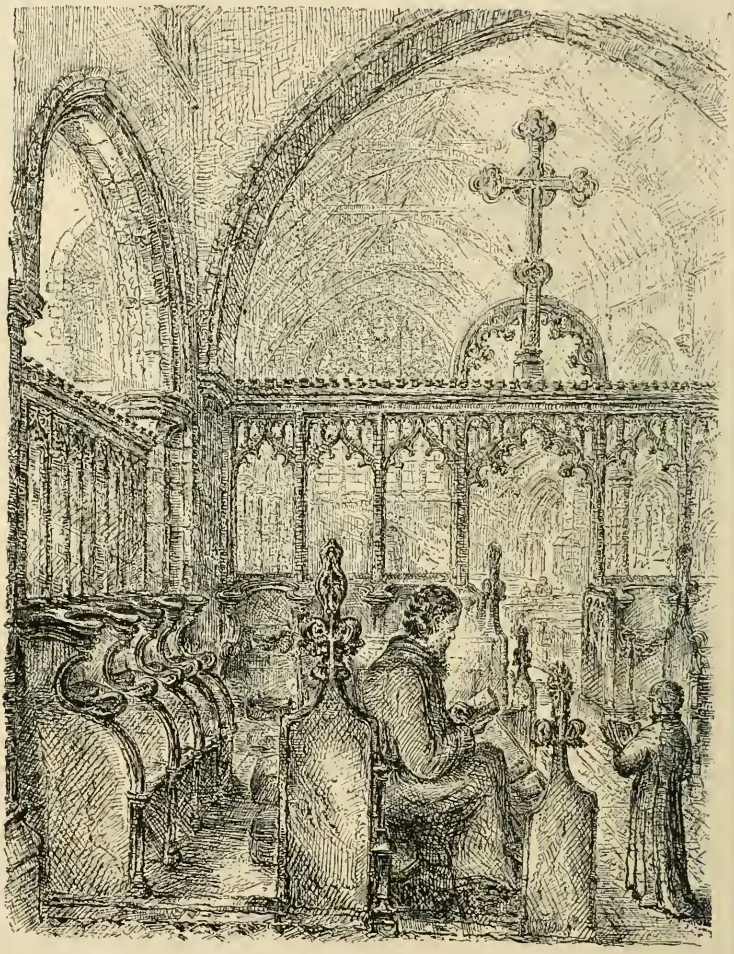
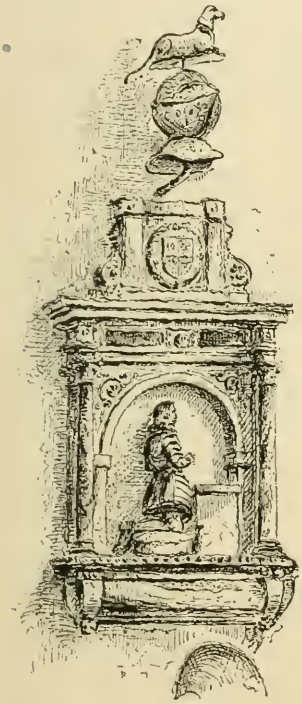


Plate 7.—CHANCEL.

Smith, of Herne Bay, crowned the whole by the munificent gifts of Reredos, stained glass East window, Chancel Screen, separating Chancel from North Chantry Chapel, two large brass candelabra,

one on each side of the Altar, and the stained glass windows and new oak benches in the porch, at the cost of nearly a thousand pounds. The architects for Mrs. Smith's gift were Messrs. Goldie and Child; the sculptor, Mr. Earp; and the artist in glass, Mr. Wailes.

East Window.—The East Window, of five lights, is noticeable for its cluster of circles in the upper part, which at first seems to be Early English, or first pointed work. It is, however, of the same date as the rest of the church (except the tower), viz., third pointed, or Perpendicular.



MONUMENT OF SIR WILLIAM THORNHURST.

The two other windows, of single lights (also resembling Early English) are both filled with stained glass, well executed; the North ("The Resurrection") in memory of William Wood; the South ("The Ascension") in memory of the Rev. John Wood, Vicar (died 1831, the father of the former), and Catherine Elizabeth, his wife.

The Sedilia (seats for the clergy) and Piscina (place for cleansing the holy vessels) are very interesting, and worthy of careful notice.

Monument of Sir W. Thornhurst.—The visitor cannot fail to observe an old monument, representing a warrior in armour kneeling on a cushion at a table, with gilded helmet and crest (there was formerly also a banner) above. See plate.

The following is the inscription :—

"Here lieth buried the body of Sir William Thornhurst Knight sonne and heire to Sir Stephen Thornhurst of Foorde in this countie, Knight, which Sir William married Ann daughter unto the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Howard Viscount Howard of Bindon and by her had issue one sonne named Gifford Thornhurst and two daughters named Frances and Grace. He dyed the 24th daye of July 1606 and in the 31st year of his age."

This monument is most beautifully executed in marble alabaster, coloured with gold, vermilion, and blue. It is otherwise very interesting. Sir William, as well as his father, was keeper of the Archbishop's Palace at Ford (already described), and his great-granddaughter was the celebrated Duchess of Marlborough, who figured so long and prominently in the reign of Queen Anne.

The following is the Pedigree :—

Sir William Thornhurst, of Herne = Ann, daughter of Thomas, Lord Howard of Bindon.

Sir Gifford Thornhurst, of Old Romney. Bart. = Susanna, daughter of Sir Alexander Temple, Knight of Chadwell.

Frances Thornhurst = Richard Jenyns, of S. Albans, Herts.

Sarah Jenyns = John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough.

The perforation in the wall beneath this monument is a Hagioscope (commonly called a squint) probably to enable the worshippers in the North Chantry Chapel to have a view of the High Altar.

Table Tomb.—The Table Tomb of stone, let into the north wall, is an object of special interest, and from the peculiarity of its position as well as the absence of any inscription, cannot fail to arrest the visitor's attention.

Brandon says it is the Tomb of some distinguished person, probably the Founder.

The three shields, bearing arms incised, and until recently covered with whitewash, seem to me clearly to indicate Sir John Fineux, who lived and died at Hawe (the "olde Fineux" already alluded to) as its owner. Sir John, whose arms are in the centre (a chevron between three eagles) married twice, and the arms of both his wives are incised on the same tomb.

His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of William Apuldrefield (a very ancient family), of Lynstead, Kent, whose arms are a cross voided, and his second wife, Elizabeth, widow of William Clere, and daughter of "Sir John Paston the younger, of Paston, Norfolk,"* whose arms are six fleur de lys a chief indented. It is true that Sir John devised to be buried in Canterbury Cathedral (see Old Wills), and that Somner declares that Sir John Fineux and his

* Blomefield's Norfolk, vol. vi., p. 293, note 4.

second wife are there buried,* but people were not always buried according to their wills (*e.g.*, Sir Matthew Philip, see Old Wills).

Gough tells us that local historians are often inaccurate.†

I believe this to be the tomb of Sir John Fineux, and certainly of Elizabeth (Apuldrefield) his wife, who devised, by her will, to be buried in the "high quyre in the church at Herne" (see Old Wills), and in whose memory a very beautiful brass still remains. (See Brass IV.)

North Chantry, or Milles Chapel.—The North Chantry, or Milles Chapel, is also called the "Lady Chapel,"‡ and "Chapel of St. John the Baptist."§ This, I think, admits of very easy explanation.

It is evident from a mere glance at the north and south walls that there were two Altars, and therefore two Chapels; one dedicated to St. John the Baptist, the other to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The present position of the Brasses (in the centre) is no proof to the contrary. At the first restoration of the church, in 1850, when the church was repewed, the west gallery removed, and a new roof put on the Nave and South Aisle, this Chapel was repaved, and I think it very likely that the positions of some of the Brasses were then altered. We know that Brasses have been removed, through ignorance or caprice, because, in the eyes of so-called restorers, they did not harmonise with the bright new tiles. Sometimes they are not even replaced. Some of the Brasses mentioned by Weever, Hasted, and Greenwood, as existing in this church cannot now be found. Not many months ago I myself discovered one of these—a very important one—and rescued it from the ignominious use to which it was being put.

It was in a wind w, and on the back of it was written in chalk, "*Key of sandpit at Mr. Roote's.*"

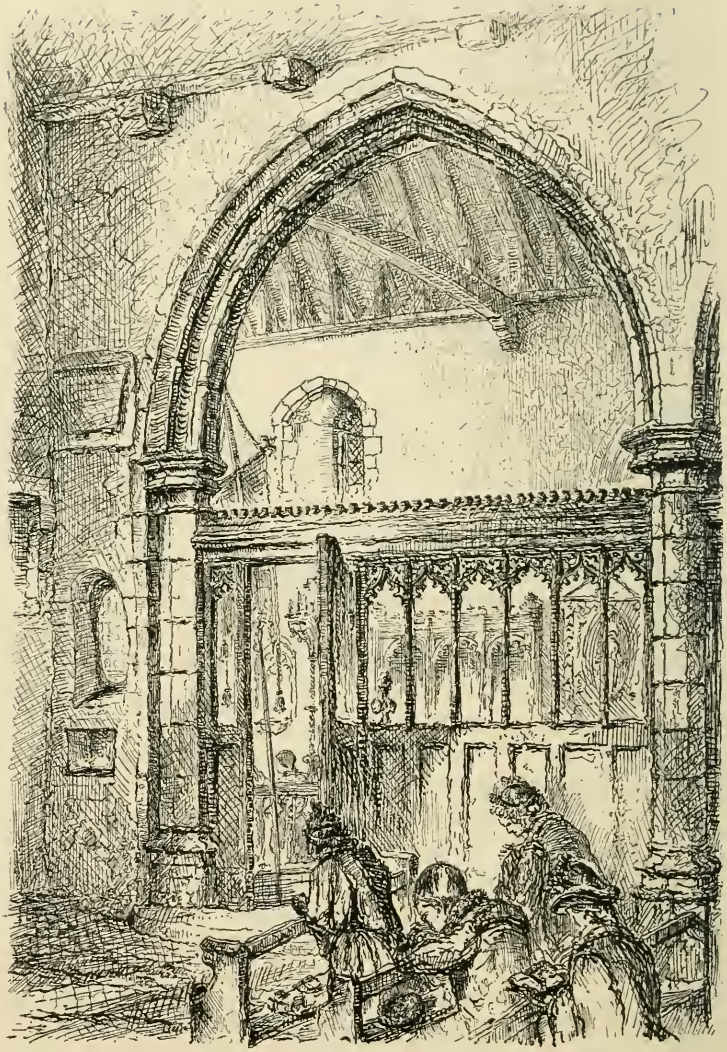
Some of the most distinguished ancestors of the Milles family are buried in this chapel. The following are the most important:

* Antiq. of Canterbury, Appendix, xxii.

† "Sepulchral Monuments," vol. i., p. 7. "So inattentive are the resident describers of our monuments that Archdeacon Batteley mistook for Archbishop Islip's in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral, an altar tomb or slab robbed of its brasses, which represented a man and wife." Gostling, p. 205.

‡ A chantry in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary was founded in this church by Thomas Newe, Vicar of Reculver ("*Vir vere insignis.*") He resigned A.D. 1356. Reg. Islip, fol. 237 a.

§ Sir Peter Halle and William Philip both devised, by will, to be buried in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, Herne. Hasted, vol. iii. p. 617—619.



VIEW IN NORTH CHANTRY CHAPEL, SHOWING HAGIOSCOPE, AUMBRY, SCREEN, &C.

1.—A black marble slab (on the floor the north side) "In "memory of Christopher Milles, Knight, Clarke of Queen Anne's "robes, and King James' and King Charles' privy chamber" (died 1638). In this vault are also buried; Mary, his second wife (died 1631), Edward (his eldest son, died 1627), Christopher (another son, died 1638,) and his two wives, Alicia and Sara (died 1664 and 1675, respectively).

2.—A black and white marble pyramidal monument (removed from the Sedilia), in memory of Samuel Milles, Knight.* He married Anna, sister of Sir Thomas Hales, Bart. He was Steward of the temporal courts of the Archbishop, the Dean and Chapter, and the Monastery of S. Augustine's, Canterbury. He died 1727.

3. On the North Wall is a very handsome marble monument, with a long and laudatory Latin epitaph of the period, in memory of Christopher Milles (grandson of the former), who died 1706, and his four wives:—

Alice, daughter of Robert Saunders, of Maidstone, Esq.; Sara, daughter of Samuel Disborough, of Maidstone, Esq.; Margeret, daughter of John Boys, of Betteshanger, Esq.; Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Cheney Colepepper, Knight, of Leeds Castle.

There are memorial stones on the floor in memory of William Foche, Vicar (died 1713), and Elizabeth, wife of John Stephens, of Canterbury, and daughter of Richard Gillow, of Woodnesborough (died 1743).

There are also mural slabs, one in memory of the Palmer family, and the other "in remembrance of Rev. John Wood, B.D., thirty-seven years vicar" (died 1831), "one of the best of fathers, by his two affectionate children."

BRASSES.

We will now describe the brasses, five in number, with effigies and four inscriptions only. For particulars of dress I am indebted to Messrs. Waller, Boutell, and Haines, and also to Mr. George Capes, jun.

I. Sir Peter Halle and wife (in the Chantry Chapel).—The knight is in a complete suit of plate armour, a gusset only of mail being visible behind the fan-shaped elbow-piece of the extended

* He also was a benefactor, and gave a beautiful alms dish to the church.

Hic iacet Petrus Halle armig' & Elyzabeth uxor eius filia dñi Willi Walcys militis & dñe de Wigrave
deus ei' dñe dñi Johis Seyntlegr militis quor' animab' & omn' fidelium defunctor' p'pitietur' Amen

Brass I.—SIR PETER HALLE AND WIFE.

arm. His feet, which have guarded spurs (indicating, I believe, a Court appointment) rest upon a dog. His right hand is joined to his wife's (the usual attitude is one of prayer). A portion only of the sword remains.

Out of his mouth issues a label with an inscription (in Latin), "Have mercy upon me, O God." *

The lady's dress is remarkable and interesting. She wears a sideless cotehardie and mantle. Her head-dress† consists of a richly worked caul, spreading out laterally, over which is a veil which falls in folds. Out of her mouth issue the words (in Latin), "Mother of God, remember me."

The following is the Latin inscription :—

Hic iacet Petrus Halle Armig' et Elyzabeth vxor eius filia dñi Willi Waleys Militis et dñe Margarete vx'is ei' filie dñi Johīs Seynclere Militis quor' aīabs et aīabs filior' et filiar' pdcōr petri et Elizabeth pp̄iciet' de' amē.

The following is the inscription (in English) :—

"Here lieth Peter Halle, Knight, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir William Waleys, Knight, and Dame Margeret his wife, daughter of Sir John Seynclere, Knight, for whose soul and the souls of the sons and daughters of the aforesaid Peter and Elizabeth may God be propitiated. Amen.

The date is circa A.D. 1420.‡

II. JOHN DARLEY (in the chancel).—This is the figure of a former Vicar of Herne, in the costume of a Bachelor of Divinity, viz., Cassock, Tippet, Hood and Gown, with armholes lined with fur. The head has the tonsure. At his feet is a lion, very uncommon with ecclesiastics, civilians, and ladies. There are only two other instances of ecclesiastics, one at Graveney, Kent, the other at Childrey, Berks.

Around the verge of the stone was the following inscription (the words wanting are filled in from other sources) :—

"Here lieth Master John Darley, Bachelor in Sacred Theology, formerly vicar, age 81."

At each corner was an Evangelistic Emblem ; only one now remains.

* The knight's arms inscribed on this brass are also on the font, and are there described. They are here impaled with a fess for Waleys and the Sun resplendent for Seynclere.

† Similar to that of the Corbel head in north-eastern angle of baptistery. (See plate 2, page 19.)

‡ Vide Waller, Part VII. Boutell, p. 62.

The Epitaph, in quaint Latin verse, runs as follows :—

"Siste gradum, videas corpus jacet ecce Johannis
Darley, qui multis fuit hic Curatus in annis ;
Iste pater morum fuit, et flos philosophorum,
Dux, via, norma gregis, patriæ lux anchora legis ;
Pagina sacra cui dedit inceptoris honorem
Hinc memor esto tui precibus sibi dando favorem."

I give this inscription in Latin, not only for the benefit of scholars, as the verses are very peculiar, but also in order to justify the advice given me by two very kind friends (W. de Gray Birch and Major Heales), not to trust to references, but always to test them. In this present instance I find that Dr. Duncombe (Vicar of Herne and the best historian of the parish) has made no less than five mistakes, besides leaving out the last line: *e.g.*, for curatus he has "miratus"; for Iste, "Ille"; for Dux, "qui"; for Norma, "Norina"; for legis, "gregis."*

Brass II.—JOHN DARLEY.

But more remarkable still, Mr. George Capes, jun., in a very elaborate description of the Herne Brasses, apparently follows suit, for he makes four out of the five same mistakes. He, however, gives the last line with two mistakes, viz., for hinc, "huic," and for tui, "huic."†

It is scarcely necessary to remark that, misquoting the Latin, Mr. Capes is somewhat puzzled with the English.

As the inscription is in Latin verse, Mr. Henry Grey (churchwarden) has kindly translated it into English verse.

"Stay, see John Darley's body lieth here,
Curate he was of Herne for many a year ;
Of morals, law, philosophy the pride,
His people's teacher, rule of life, and guide ;
His honoured task t'unfold the sacred scroll ;
Think of thy sins in praying for his soul."

Messrs. Waller assign A.D. 1480 as the date of this brass ; Haines

* Bib. Top. Brit. xviii. † Brit. Arch. Ass. Journal, xii. 80.

(in my opinion with greater accuracy) about 1450. John Darley was collated on May 5th, 1432, by Archbishop Chichele*; and on August 12th, 1446 (when his successor, John Bedale, was collated), a pension of £10 a year for life from the proceeds of the benefice was settled upon John Darley,† who then resigned.

III. Christina Phelip (or Philip), (in the North Chantry Chapel).—This is what is called a Goldsmith's Brass, *i.e.*, according to Haines, "of superior workmanship and delicate tracery." The lady is habited in a very long gown, bound with a broad band, and open at the breast, showing a small portion of the bodice, which, according to Planché, was introduced about this time.‡ It is observable that the waist is much shorter than that worn fifty years before by the wife of Sir Peter Halle, whose effigy is on the first brass. The rosary has no cross attached to it. She wears the horned, or forked headdress of the previous reign. Over the dress is a long mantle trimmed with fur, and fastened with cords and bands.

Brass III.—CHRISTINA PHILIP.

The hands are opened outwards, not joined in prayer, as is usual. Above her head, on a scroll, are the words (of which those in parentheses are wanting):

"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to (Thy) great (mercy)."

There are ancient as well as modern mistakes, "magnam" (great) being spelt "mangnam."

* Chichele Reg. f. 193b. † Staff Reg. f. 90.
‡ Hist. of Brit. Costume (Temp. Edward IV.)

The following is the Latin inscription :—

Orate specialit' p̄ Aīa Dñe xp̄ine dudū vxoris Mathei Phelip ciuis et Aurifabri ac quondā maioris ciuitatis londīn que migrauit ab hac valle miserie xxv° die maii A° dñi millīmo cccc°lxx° cuius Aīe pp̄iciet' de' Amē.

The Inscription (in English) is as follows :—

"Pray specially for the soul of Christina, formerly the wife of Matthew Phelip, citizen and goldsmith, and formerly Mayor of the City of London, who migrated from this vale of misery the 25th day of May in the year of our Lord 1470, on whose soul may God have mercy. Amen."

On a shield are the arms of Philip. Semée of fleurs de lis impaled with five lozenges in bend. This brass is of great historic interest.

Sir Mathew Philip (who is also buried here) was, according to Stowe,* the son of Arnold Philip, of Norwich, but I think the statement incorrect. Sir Mathew Philip was without doubt a very remarkable man. He was in all probability the son of William Philip of Herne (died 1458) and to his own son William of Herne (upon the death of his third wife, Beatrice) he bequeathed his estates in Herne. See Old Wills.

Weever states that "he was made Knight of the Bath at the "Coronation of Elizabeth, wife of Edward the 4th, and, after that, "was knighted on the field in 1471."†

Other historians furnish us with full particulars, which are very interesting, of these two knightings.

Fabyan tells us that "the nyght before Elizabeth was crowned "at Westmynstre with great solempnytie, Matthew Philip and "others were than and there [at the Tower] made Knyghtes of the "Bath."‡

Orridge gives us the reason. It was on account of the valiant defence made by the citizens of London against the assaults of Lord Scales and the bastard Falconbridge.§

Metcalfe gives us the exact date and occasion of the second knighting (knight Banneret). "It was on the 20th May, 1471, on "the King's retourne from the field of Tewkesbury,"‖ and Stowe,¶ "the exact place, "one mile without the citie, to wit, between "Iseldon" (Islington) "and Sorse-ditch" (Shoreditch). Sir Matthew was otherwise eminent in business. He was evidently the King's goldsmith ;—*e. g.*

* Survey of London, vol. ii., p. 122.
† Funeral Monuments, Herne, p. 3.
‡ Chronicle, p. 655
§ Citizens and their Rulers, p. 25.
‖ "Book of Knights," p. 4.
¶ Annales, p. 698.

"On the 30th January, 1448, there was a warrant (Henry VI.) "to John Merston, Treasurer of Chamber and Keeper of Jewels, "to deliver to John Paddesly and Matthew Phelip, goldsmiths, "as pledges for £3,150, due to them for jewels," the following:—

(Here follows a full description of the articles of plate, amongst which is)—"Unum spyce plate auri cöopertum cum petris et "perulis garnizatum vocatum le riche spyce plate."

And another:—"Unum discum magnum eleemosynarum, de "Argento et de aurato factum ad modum cujusdam navis cum "hominibus ad arma circumstantibus, ponderantia, de pondere "Trojani, sexaginta et septem libras et novem uncias."*

There is also another warrant:—

"15th September, 1455, the King (Henry VI.) paid Matthew "Philip, Citizen and Goldsmith of London, in part payment for "the garter of gold garnissed withe stones and pearls (Order of "the Garter) for the King of Portugal."†

Chaffers states that "Sir Matthew Philip was Mayor of London "in 1463-4, Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company in 1474, and "that he subscribed 6s. 8d. towards St. Dunstan's feast, which "amounted altogether to £15 5s. 2d."‡

Brass IV.—ELIZABETH, LADY FYNEUX.

IV. ELIZABETH FYNEUX.—(This is also a goldsmith's brass, in the Chancel). The lady is habited in a low dress with slashed sleeves, bound round the waist with a broad girdle, in the centre of which is a large ornament, and, pendant,(the pomander). From the waist the gown is open showing the petticoat or kirtle; above the dress is seen the habit shirt, which was introduced in this reign. Her dress is beauti-

* Hardy's Syllabus of Rymer's Fœdera, vol ii., 678.

† "Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain during the Middle Ages," xxii. Part ii., 504-5.

‡ Gilda Aurifabrorum, p. 57.

fully embroidered. The cap is very plain, and has somewhat the appearance of a widow's cap of our own times. From the inscription it would also appear that this lady was a widow.* The inscription, which is very remarkable, is as follows :—

" The xxij daye of the moneth auguste/the yere after the Incarnacyon
Of owr lord god to reken Juste/A thowsand fiue hundreth forty saue one
Dyed this lady whych vnder thys stone/lyeth here buryed Elyzabeth by name
The wyfe of s^r^ John ffyneux late gone/The whych in thys world had eu^r^ good
Fam Whose soll I p^r^ye Jhū throwgh hys grace/In heuen maye haue a restyng place."

She was the daughter of Sir William Apuldrefield, of Lynsted, Kent, and, being the only child, brought large possessions to her husband. (See Old Wills.)

Sir John Fineux was Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench (Hen. VII. and Hen. VIII.). He died 1525. (See Old Wills.)

They had two daughters, Jane, who married John Roper,† of Eltham ; and Mildred, who married James Diggs, of Barham.

HERE LIETH IN TERRED JOHN SEA OF UNDERDOWNE IN THE PARISH
OF HERNE ESQUIRE WHO TOOKE TO WIFE MARTHA HAMOND DAUGH
TER OF THO HAM OF S ALBANS IN EAST KENT ESQUIRE BY WHOM HE HAD
ISSUE VI SONNES & III DAUGHTERS & AFTER HER DECEASE MARIED
SARA BOAS ELDEST DAUGHTER YN TO THOMAS BOAS OF BARKESTON
CLIFF BY WHOM HE HAD ONE SONNE & ONE DAUGHTER HE LIVED AND
DIED IN PEACE OBIIT 23 FEBRUARII ANNO DNI 1604

Brass V.—JOHN SEA AND HIS WIVES.

V. JOHN SEA and his two wives (in the Chantry Chapel).—John Sea, or atte Sea, belonged to a very ancient family which for many years were possessors of the manor of At Sea (or Strode), which at one time included the manor of Underdown, where he died. The following is the inscription :—

" Here lieth interred John Sea of Underdown in the parish of Herne, Esquire, who tooke to wife Martha Hamond daughter of Tho Ham, of

* In "Kent Fines," 26 Hen. VIII. (1535), mention is made of "Lady Elizabeth Fenyeux, of Herne," evidently the same person.

† His great grandson was created Baron Teynham in 1616.

St. Alban's in East Kent Esquire, by whom he had issue 6 sonnes and 3 daughters; after her decease he married Sara Boys, eldest daughter unto Thomas Boys of Barfreston, gent, by whom he had one sonne, and one daughter and lived and died in peace. Obiit 23rd February 1604."

Four shields occupy the corners of the stone. 1. The Arms of Sea, a fish hauriant between flanches, charged with bars nebulæ, impaled with those of Hamond, on a chevron between three rondels, each charged with a martlet, as many escallop shells within a bordure engrailed. 2. Missing. 3. Arms of Sea impaled with a griffin rampant within a bordure, for Boys. 4. Same as 1.

The visitor cannot fail to notice the exact identity, line for line, in the stiff formal dresses of the ladies, which, compared with the elaborate costumes of those of the preceding, are very uninteresting.

Mr. Capes, to judge by his humorous description, seems to have been particularly struck with this fact.

"It would appear," says he, that "the second wife (to use "a familiar expression) not only stepped into the first wife's shoes, "but, being probably of an economical turn, might have appro- "priated to her own use the entire wardrobe of the deceased "partner of her husband's affections."*

The following have Inscriptions only:

VI. William Bysmare (in North Chantry Chapel, not fixed, lately recovered).

"Here lieth William Bysmare, formerly citizen and goldsmith of London, who died A.D. 1456, and Elizabeth, Agnes, and Margaret, his wives."

VII. Antony Loverick and Wife (in North Chantry Chapel).

"Here lies Antony Loverick and Constantia his wife, who died 19 October, 1511."

His arms (almost obliterated), three leopards' heads, are carved on one of the shields of the Font.

VIII. John Fyneux (in North Chantry Chapel, not fixed). This is the brass fortunately recovered. (See p. 33.)

"Here lieth John Fyneux late of this Pish of Hearne Esquier and Margaret his wife Daughter of Thomas Mor(ley) sometyme of Glyne in the Countie of Sussex Esquier w^ch^ Margaret deceassed the nynth day of December 1591† and

* Journal of Brit. Arch. Ass.—XII. 80.
† This lady in the register is buried the same day.

in the fower and thirtith yere of the reigne of our sovaigne Ladie Queene Eliz. ; and the said John Fyneux departed this life y^e^ last day of July following 1592 in the said xxxiiii^th^ yere of the Queene's matie leaving Behind them one only daughter and heir named Elizabeth who maried John Smith Esquier sõne and heir of Thomas Smith late of Ostenhanger in this countie of Kente."

IX. At the foot of the Benefaction Tables in the South Chantry Chapel is a small Brass with the following curious Inscription :—

"Hic chorus indecorus fuerat, nunc valde decorus,
An dicas istum qui decoravit eum."

Thus freely translated by Mr. Henry Grey (churchwarden) :—

"Here a bad choir was once, but now a good one,
One would not call the change a bad one, would one."

Before quitting this subject, let me direct the attention of the visitor to two other objects of interest in the churchyard.

One, the oldest gravestone known, opposite the centre buttress of North Chantry Chapel. It is marked $\frac{C}{GG}$, and bears the date of 1652.

The other, the gravestone of John Fergusson Moultrie (against the West Railings, towards the South), on which are inscribed the following beautiful lines, by the Rev. John Moultrie, late vicar of Rugby. I give them because the late Dean of Westminster told me he thought no history of Herne Church would be complete without them.

"Sweet babe, from griefs and dangers
Rest here, for ever free ;
We leave thy dust to strangers,
But, oh, we leave not thee !

"Thy mortal sweetness, smitten
To scourge our souls from sin,
Is on our memory written,
And treasured deep within ;

"While that which is immortal
Fond hope doth still retain ;
And saith, 'At heaven's bright portal
Ye all shall meet again.' "

Brief Account of St. Martin.

St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, was born A.D. 320, at Sabaria, in Pannonia (Steinamargen). His father and mother were heathens; he was at first a Roman soldier when fifteen years of age, and baptised at eighteen. His corps was situated at Ambianum (Amiens).

The legend runs that on one bitter winter day, as he was passing the gate of the city, he saw a poor beggar nearly naked, so utterly ragged were his clothes; Martin, filled with pity, cut his mantle in two and gave half to the beggar. Next night as he slept, he saw Jesus Christ seated on His throne surrounded by the host of Heaven, wearing the half mantle of Martin over His shoulders. "See," he heard the Saviour say, "this is the mantle which Martin, yet a catechumen, gave Me."

In A.D. 358, in the midst of the war with the Franks and Allemanni, when the Emperor Julian was at Worms, Martin (then a tribune) made an untimely claim to be released from military duty. Julian was indignant, a battle being imminent, and he scornfully refused the petition, saying Martin was a coward. The young tribune answered: "Put me in the fore-front of the army, without weapons or armour, but I will not draw sword again, I am become the soldier of Christ." He was immediately put in irons, but was afterwards released. On leaving the army Martin went to Poictiers, and put himself under Hilary, who afterwards ordained him an exorcist.

In A.D. 371 he became Bishop of Tours, but remained a monk, living in a cell. Being wearied with the number of visitors attracted by his sanctity, he removed to the place where afterwards stood the Abbey of Marmontier, on the Loire. He had eighty disciples, who dressed in skins, ate but once a day, and drank no wine.

When at the end of his career (eighty years of age) and eager to receive his celestial reward, he yielded to the tears of his disciples and consented to ask from God the prolongation of his days, "Lord," said he, "if I am still necessary to Thy people, I will not draw back from the work," "*Domine non recuso laborem.*" Noble words!—words which ought to be the motto of every Christian.

He died November 9th, A.D. 401.

In Art, St. Martin is represented as a young Tribune on horseback, dividing his cloak and giving half to a beggar.

CHAPTER IV.

Vicars of Herne and Chantry Priests.

VICARS OF HERNE.

Date of Appointment.	Names.	Register.
1310	Hugh de Godynestre	Winchelsey, f. 30.

This Vicar is named in the endowment, but it is not certain that he was collated.

1321	Henry Rouhall	Reynolds, f. 29.
1350	Richard Medebourne	Islip, f. 255a.
1357	William Kac, or Koc John Hawe	Ibid. f. 279a.
1376 July 9th	Nicholas de Farneham	Sudbury, f. 114a.
„ Oct. 28th	Roger Sutton, by exchange with Farneham	Ibid. f. 119a.
„ Oct. 28th	John Chert, by exchange with Sutton	„ f. 119a.
„ Dec. 31st	William Graunt, by exchange with Chert	Bouchier and Courteney, f. 216b.
1393	William Gosse	Courteney in Morton Dene.
1431	Henry Basset	Chicheley, p. 1, f. 194a.
1432	John Darley	Ibid. f. 195b.

See brass No II. He resigned in 1446, through age and infirmity, and Archbishop Stafford granted him a pension of £10 per annum for life, out of the proceeds of the benefice (Stafford Reg. f. 90a). We have here a precedent for retiring pensions.

1446	John Bedale	Stafford, f. 90.
1464	Christopher Warinyngton Richard Bonaventure	(Bouchier, f. 89b.)
1489	John Caton	Morton, Dene, Bouchier, and Courteney, f. 146a.

Date of Appointment.	Names.	Register.
1511	Andrew Benstede	Warham, f. 342a.
1531	John Warren	Ibid. f. 405b.
(See Old Wills.)		
1538	Nicholas Ridley	Cranmer, 364b.

The chief interest of Herne, in the minds of most people, centres in the person of Bishop Ridley, on account of his learning and eloquence, and the prominent part he took in the Reformation, which cost him his life.

Nicholas Ridley was born at Tyneside, in Northumberland, of an ancient family. He entered Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, in 1518, and afterwards studied at Paris and Louvain. His great reputation as a preacher and intimate acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures and the Fathers, induced Archbishop Cranmer to make him his chaplain, and the firm and intimate friendship which was then formed between them was life-long.

In 1540 he was made Master of Pembroke Hall.

In 1541, "Articles were exhibited against him for preaching at "Stephens against Auricular Confession, and directing the *Te Deum* "to be sung in English in Herne Church."*

In 1545 he was appointed Bishop of Rochester, and in 1547, Nov. 16th, "License was given to Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of "Rochester, to hold the Vicarages of Herne (Canterbury), Soham, "Norwich, and also two prebends at Canterbury and West-"minster."†

In 1549, by a Commission consisting of Archbishop Cranmer, Bishop Ridley, the Dean of St. Paul's (Dr. May), and two Secretaries of State, Bonner, Bishop of London, was deprived, and Bishop Ridley elected in his place, the first three giving sentence of deprivation.‡

It is but fair to state that "Bishop Bonner had hitherto complied "with the ecclesiastical changes made by Henry VIII.,"§ and that he had not yet committed any of those cruel acts which afterwards earned him the name of persecutor.

On the same day that he was appointed Bishop of London (Oct. 1st), Bishop Ridley surrendered four valuable manors belong-

* Chalmer's Biog. Dict., xxvi. 210.
† Syll. of Rymer's Fœdera, iii. 78.
‡ Burnet's Hist. of Ref., vol. ii., p. 220.
§ Blunt's Hist. of Ref., p. 119.

ing to that see,* nominally to the King, but in reality to his courtiers, Sir Richard Rich (Lord Chancellor), Sir Thomas Darcy, and Herbert (Lord Wentworth, K.G., Master of the King's horses), by whom the warrant was signed on behalf of the King, *to whom*, "after the immodest interval of four days, by a second "instrument they were re-conveyed."†

In 1550, at his visitation, Bishop Ridley issued his Injunctions ordering the removal of Stone Altars,‡ which order undoubtedly paved the way for the removal of church goods and effects generally which followed shortly afterwards.§

In 1553 Bishop Ridley preached before the King (Edward VI.), then languishing under decline, on Charity, with such effect that those noble institutions, Christ's, St. Bartholomew's, Bridewell, and St. Thomas's Hospitals were either founded or incorporated anew and endowed.‖

Upon the death of Edward VI., Bishop Ridley joined in the futile attempt to set Lady Jane Grey on the throne. Upon the same day that the edict went forth from the Council declaring her Queen (9th July, 1553), "Preched the Byshoppe of London, "Nicolas Reddesle, at Paul's Cross, and there called both the sayo "ladys (Mary and Elizabeth) bastarddes that alle the pepull "was sore anoyd with his worddes soo uncharytabulle spokyne "by hym in so opyne an awdiens."¶

The attempt being unsuccessful, Bishop Ridley went to Queen Mary to do homage and submit himself to her clemency, but was committed to the Tower, although treated with less rigour than Cranmer and Latimer. After eight months imprisonment he was conveyed to Oxford, where, on the 1st October, 1555, he was condemned for heresy, and on the 15th suffered martyrdom by fire for his opinions, together with Bishop Latimer. His farewell address is known to most people who are familiar with his history. I give that portion of it relating to Herne.

* Braintree, South Minster, Stepney, and Hackney. The warrant is ominously headed, "The late possessions of the Busshopricke of London."—Public Rec. Office, Augmentation, Deeds of Purchase and Exchange, G. 25.

† Dixon's Church of England, Vol. III., pp. 197-8.

‡ Brit. Mus. t. 775-11.

§ "In the beginning of May was tane owt of all the churches of London and aboute (all the) platte and qwyne (coin) that was in theyr boxys in every church for the Kinge's grace? and vestments and copes, wyche drew unto a grett substans besyde the coyne."—Nicholl's Grey Friars Chron. p. 77.

‖ Chalmer's Biograph. Dic. xxxvi., p. 217.

¶ Grey Friars Chron. (Nichols), p. 78.

"From Cambridge I was called into Kent by the Archbishop of "Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, that most reverend father and "man of God, and of him by and by sent to be Vicar of Herne, "in East Kent. Wherefore, farewell Herne, thou worshipful and "wealthy parish, the first cure whereunto I was called to minister "God's Word. Thou hast heard of my mouth oftentimes the "Word of God preached, not after the Popish trade but after "the Christ's Gospel. Oh, that the fruit had answered to the "seed! And yet I must acknowledge thee to be my debtor for "the doctrine of the Lord's Supper, which I acknowledge at that "time God had not revealed unto me. But I bless God in all that "Godly virtue and zeal of God's Word, which the Lord, by "preaching of His Word, did kindle manifestly both in the "heart and in the life and works of that godly woman there, my "Lady Fiennes.* The Lord grant that His Word took like "effect there in many other more."†

In reading the different accounts of Bishop Ridley, it is very difficult to arrive at a just conclusion. The rancour of religious prejudice is so great that people of note are, for the most part, depicted by historians either as angels or devils. The judgment thus formed is by no means fixed or lasting, and it is not at all an uncommon thing for the verdict of one age to be reversed by another. But "at length," as the late Dean Stanley remarks, when describing a character which fully corroborates this statement (Becket), "the pendulum which has been violently swung to and fro, settles into its proper place."‡ On the one hand, it is impossible to justify acts which were undoubtedly unlawful and unjust. On the other, we ought to make due allowance for the times in which Bishop Ridley lived, and for the indisputable sincerity of his convictions with regard to the Reformed Church, the fate of which was at that time trembling in the balance.

Let us judge Bishop Ridley neither as an angel nor a devil, but as a man. Let us judge him as we ourselves would be judged, with "charity" which "is kind"—and which "thinketh no evil."

Date of Appointment.	Names.	Register.
1549	Thomas Broke	Cranmer, f. 410.
1562	Thomas Brydges	Parker, 358b.

* Fyneux. See Brass IV., and Old Wills. † Bib. Top. Brit. xviii. 109.
‡ Memorials of Canterbury, p. 39.

Date of Appointment.	Names.	Register.
1590	Richard Colfe	Whittift, f. 488b.
1613	Isaac Colfe...	Abbot, f. 396b.
1616	Jacob Colfe	Ibid. f. 420.
1617	Thomas Harward	Ibid. f. 429 b.
1620	Alexander Chapman ...	Ibid. p. 11, f. 326a.
1629	Francis Ketelby	Ibid. p. 111, f. 185a.
1634	John Reader	Laud, p. 1, f. 310a.
	John Webb	
1689	William Foche	Sancroft, f. 41b.

He was appointed during Sancroft's suspension and is buried in the North Chantry Chapel.

1713	John Ramsey	Tenison, p. 11, f. 219a.
1724	Henry Archer	Wake, p. 1, f. 333a.
1726	William Squire	Ibid. p. 11, f. 235a.
1739	Robert Gascoyne	Potter, f. 267a.
1752	Henry Hall	Herring, f. 294b.
1756	William Rogers	Ibid.
1773	John Duncombe	Cornwallis.

Dr. Duncombe was a very learned man and author of several works, amongst them a "History of Herne and Reculver." He was a great Pluralist, being not only Vicar of Herne, but also Rector of St. Andrew's and St. Mary Bredman's, Canterbury, Master of Harbledown and St. John's Hospitals, and one of the Six Preachers in the Cathedral.

1786	Joseph Price	Moore.
1794	John Wood...	„
1831	James Six May	Howley.
1866	James Robert Buchanan ...	Longley.

CHANTRY PRIESTS.

There was a chantry founded in this church in honour of the Virgin Mary, by Thomas Newe, Cl., sometime Vicar of Reculver, to provide for the perpetual celebration of the Mass.* This foundation, like many others of the same nature, was suppressed in the 2nd year of Edward VI., the revenues of it being at that

* Hasted, vol. iii., 623.

time of the yearly value of £6 5s. 1d., and sold by the King's Commissioners to William Twysden and John Brown.*

Date of Appointment.	Names.	Register.
1354	William Burke	Islip, f. 104a.
1377	John Kyngg, on the resignation of Burke	Sudbury, f. 123b.
1385	Nich Crek, presb. ...	Courtney, f. 259a.
	John Robyn	
1440	Thomas Curteyse, on the resignation of Robyn ...	Stafford, f. 76b.
1460	Richard Wyreham	Bouchier, f. 78a.
1489	John Caton, on the resignation of Wyreham ...	Morton.
	Richard ap Gryffythe ...	Warham.
1506	Will Mychill, on the resignation of Gryffythe ...	Warham f. 328b.

* Survey and Sale of Chantry Lands, in Augmentation Office.

CHAPTER V.

Parish Registers.

THE Parish Registers commence November 1558, the first year of Queen Elizabeth. The early portions are beautifully written, and are transcriptions on parchment, according to the stringent mandate to that effect, ordered in 1597.

The following are very curious :—

1564. Joane Nottynghā buryed 16 ejusdem (July) dead in travell and her child.

1564. Valentyne Church a woeman baptized and buryed at home 26 ejusdem (December).

1565. John Jarvys had two women children twynes baptized at home joyned togeather in the belly and havynge each the one of theyr armes lyinge at one of theyr owne shoulders and in all other pts well pportioned chilldren buryed Auguste 29.

1565. Robert Nicholson maryner and forayner buryed 23 ejusdem (January) this Robert lay in John Dodd's house from Wednes Day untill Sunday wthout any succour.

1566. Stephanus Sawyer vir piæ memoriæ annos natus 92 martii 30 vitā suā finiit cū 30 annos continuos purā chi religione contra Romanam tyrannidem professus fuisset.

1567. Ould Arnold a chrysomer* buryed 8 ejusdem (February). (See also Tithes and Fees, p. 59.)

1567. Wyllyam Lawson had an infant christyand by the woemen buryed 21 ejusdem (Martii).

* Mr. William Boys, F.S.A., of Sandwich (a well known writer), thought chrysomer meant an unbaptized child —Rev. Samuel Deane thought it meant a christened child that died within the month.—Bib. Top. Brit., xviii., 186-7. The chrysom was the white cloth put on the new baptized child.—Johnson's Canons of Eccles. Law, 1720.

1567. Richard ffowler a walkynge man buryed 25 ejusdem (April).

1568. A walkynge woeman buryed 27 Martii.

1572. A wayfayringe woeman delivered in the fieldes by the buttes and harboured in Barbonnes Wydowes house whose childe was baptized Septembris 14 and called Marke.

1573. Thomas an infant fathered upon Mason the butcher the mother's confessyon in her travayle baptized Augusti 24.

1576. Randall Wood puer laqueo se ipsū strangulans buryed Novembris 20.

1577. Clement Austen smitten with thund^{r} and blasted with lightninge in his house whereof he dyed ymmediately buryed Augusti 3.

1577. John ffrench a straung^{r} by misfortune killed with a gunn in the Westbleane buryed Novembris 4.

1589. Robert Ball the miller taken away in thund^{r} buryed 16 July.

1590. John Ewell an excomunicate pson buryed 28 ejusdem (February).

1596. Mother Allyn wid. 100 years buryed July 2.

1597. ffortune a bastard the daughter of the Wid Attyoe begotten by Willyam Twyman of Byrchington in the yle of Thanett baptized Marty 19.

1601. Stephen Crump clerk of this p̄ish drowned in a dyke betwene Broad Oke and Cant^{e}bury the 21 of Aprill and buryed here at Herne Aprill 22^{d}.

1601. Willyam Tailor a boy of Robert Stacy musityon of Canterbury who came unto this pysh to play at a dauncing on a Sabaoth day here sickned and dyed the day followinge buryed July 27.

1609. Mychaell filius Johannis Hunt curati natus die Sabbati January 27 circa hora nona ante meridiana (*sic*) 1609 baptizatus die solis February quarto.

1697. A waygoing man whose name I knew not buryed Mar$^{e}_{y}$ 20$^{th.}$

1704. Elizabeth daughter of William Foche vicar Elizabeth his wife born and baptized Nov $^{e}_{y}$ 17$^{th.}$

I had another daughter of this name 11 years.

1706. Mary son (*sic*) of Henry Skinner by its mother the Widow Rowe confession bapt Ap : $^{e}_{y}$ 21$^{st.}$

1711. Frances daughter of Isaiah Lee by Dinah his wife, being y^{e} child of a waygoing woman, was for want of Godfathers, and

Godmothers, being almost at y^e^ point of death as it seemed to me, baptized w^th^in my house w^th^ private baptism Oct 5^th^.

1711. Frances (daughter of Isaiah Lee) travellor Bur. Oct 7^th^.

EXTRACTS FROM CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

1370. The Account of John Foring (?), Chapman, now Keeper of the Goods of Herne Church in the Year of Our Lord one thousand three hundred and seventy from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel to the same feast (following).

Arrears.—He accounts for 100 shillings and ten pence halfpenny of arrears.

Rents of Assize.—Also he is answerable for fifteen shillings and sixpence halfpenny for Michaelmass, of the rents (due) at that term. And for nineteen pence halfpenny of the rents due at the feast of Our Lord's Nativity. And for fifteen shillings and eight of rent due at the feast of Easter. And for eighteen pence of rent due at the feast of S. John Baptist.

Sum.—Thirty four shillings and four pence,
&c. &c. &c.

1550. It. of Henry Oxenden Gent for his farme of six acres of lande as is aforesaid ... ... vi^s^

„ It. paide for iij hunderd of leade nayles at iv^d^ the hundered ... ... xii^d^

1656. Aug. 28.	Item, to John King about his good-wife	00	11	0
	„ to ffork her out of prisson! ...	00	10	0
1702. May 29.	P^d^ for three Roag Hoges (Hedgehogs)	00	1	0
1705. Ap^ll^ 23.	Given to famelys that were driven from House and habitation by y^e^ sea	00	2	0
1704. Mar. 25.	For 2 Poullcatts (Polecats) and 3 Hedghoggs	00	2	0
„ „	Given to Travellers taken by the French	00	1	6
„ „	Given to the Ringers on the Day of Ringing for the Great Victory ...	00	6	0
1706 17 day of Aprill.	For Writing in the Register, p^d^ Oath and to Mr. Lock for his Dinnor and keeping y^e^ Rigister	00	10	0

		£	s	d
1706 17 day of April.	Spent at ye Vizitation. P[d] at y[e] Parambleation. P[d] for ringing and other small things...	03	9	0
,, ,,	P[d] for 2 foxe's heads. P[d] 10 Dussun of Sparrows' Heads. P[d] 6 bottells of Wine for y[e] Communion ...	01	9	6
,, ,,	P[d] for buring of 3 men by the Sea Side	00	6	0
,, ,,	P[d] To Bushell his yeare's Dogwhipping	00	10	0
,, ,,	P[d] To the Owld Churchwarden, that were out of yure sight at y[e] Parish Meeting	00	5	5
	and 3 dusson of Sparrows heads ...		6	8
1707. May 22.	P[d] to gode wofe when hir husband was gone		1	6
,, ,,	Memorandum that the Churchwardens of Hearn pay the sum of £ 00. s 05. d 0. to Church-warden of Reculver within the "No[r]th Po[a]rch" of the said Church every Whitsun Munday.			
1708. Ap. 20.	Paid Mrs. Stevens for ile (oil) and half a bushel of Coles	00	00	10½
1710. May 10.	Paid for several dousson of Sparrows, Four hedg Hoggs	00	04	03
1720. Sept. 30.	Gave a travelling woman, big with child, to depart y[e] place	00	01	0
,, ,,	Tho[s] Tanner for 2 doz sparrowes ...	00	00	4
,, ,,	Paid Jo[n] Smith y[e] dog Whipper, his half yeares Wagges	00	05	0
,, ,,	Will[m] Rothop for Drink for y[e] Ringers had on Coronation Day	00	05	0
,, ,,	For a form of Prayer for y[e] fast day	00	01	6
,, ,,	P[d] to Richard Mather for catching a fox	00	00	6
,, ,,	Gave three Travellers in want ...	00	00	6
,, ,,	Gave to Company of Slaves ...	00	00	5
,, ,,	P[d] for 1 Graye's Head (Badger)...	00	02	0
,, ,,	Gave 2 aged Slaves	00	02	0
,, ,,	Paid for 3 hegg hogs...	00	01	0
,, ,,	Gave Ringers for Gunpowder Treason	00	05	0

1720. Sept. 30.	P[d] Richard Mather, his wife, for a fox h[d] & a Grays h[d]	00	04	0
,, ,,	Smuggler's Money. Totall	07	2	6
May ,,	P[d] Contribution money at Reculver...	00	05	0
,, ,,	Spent there	00	03	0
,, ,,	Gave to 13 men Turkey Slaves ...	00	05	0
1727. May 26.	P[d] to Reculver Churchwardens ...	00	05	0
	Spent at the same time	00	06	0
,, ,,	Gave the Ringers at Proclaiming the King	01	00	06
Oct. 16.	Gave the Ringers at the Coronation	00	10	00
April 1.	Paid Jaurice Dadsman for a Bagor's (Badger's) head.	00	02	00
,, 20.	P[d] Fran[s] Young for burying two men taken up by the sea	00	04	00
,, ,,	Spent at y[e] bounds of the Parish ...	03	03	0
1721.	For carrying a poor Rashed Travailor in my cart to y[e] Pox (Small Pox) Officer, viz., to Mr. Ewells 2[s], and 1[s] I gave her to gett up my cart...	00	03	00

"Form of the Receit for the payment of the five shillings at "Reculver on Whitson Munday is as followeth :"

"May y[e] 28, 1705. Received then of John Kemp and "Edward Webb, Churchwardens of the Parish of Hearne y[e] sume "of five shillings which by an antient composition is yearely pay- "able by y[e] Churchwardens of Herne above p[d] to y[e] Church- "wardens of Reculver upon this day being Munday in Whitson "Weeke. Received in full for y[e] a bove said composition.

"£	s.	d.	by us J—— O——	*Church*
"0	5	0	R—— W——	*Wardens.*"

CHAPTER VI.

Tithes and Fees.

A letter written by the Rev. John Hunte, curate of Herne, dated August 10th, 1621, showing "the manner of paying "the small tithes, and certain customs with regard to "church fees," is very interesting and amusing.*

Mr. Hunte declares this to be "the ancient custom beyond "the memory of man." He had the books of Mr. Brydges (Vicar 1562), who had them of Mr. Johnson (1549). This letter throws light upon the words or the original Institution of the Vicarage."† The vicar shall have tenths of hay, flax, wool, milk, honey, lambs, produce of gardens and meadows."... "Omnes que "minutas decimas quæ ad altaragium spectare dicuntur,‡ *i.e.*, "and all the small tithes which are said to belong to the altar."

It. 2$^{d.}$ for the milk of every cowe.

It. The calfe, if it be sold, the vicar's due is the tenth penny; as, if it be sold for 10$^{s.}$ the vicar hath out of that due to him 12$^{d.}$ If the owner of the calfe kill it in his house, the vicar hath due the left shoulder thereof.

It. For every 12 monthling bullocke, be it either heifor or steere, 1$^{d.}$ to be paid at Easter; for every two yearing, 2$^{d.}$; for every three yearing, 3$^{d.}$; if the heifore be not with calfe, for in this case shee is titheable as a cowe; and if the steere hath usually wrought, he is thereby freed; the like manner is observed for coultes.

It. Wooll is due the tenth pound, or tenth quarter.

* Lambeth Library, MS. Lewis, p. 226.

† Reg. Winchelsea, f. 30 Lambeth Lib.

‡ "The word 'altaragium' signifies all tithes offerings belonging to the minister for officiating at the altar, and comprehends every titheable matter not expressly mentioned in the endowment."—*Bateman on Agistment Tithes.*

It. Grasse hath usually been taken in grasse cockes, unlesse in curtesse the parishioners will make it good.

It. Hempe, the tenth shote of thistle and seed hempe immediately when it is drawn.

It. Of bees, the tenth measure of honey, and the tenth quantity of wax.

It. Eggs, as the vicar and parishioners can agree, but if he will have eggs (the antient custom, as hath been reported), two eggs for every hen, and three for every cocke. The like for ducks and drakes.

It. Geese and turkeys are to be taken for tith at such times as they may be made fitt for food.

It. In gardens, onions, rootes, artichokes, and such, are paid the tenth, or tenth measure; but for herebes and flowers, as the vicar and parishioners can agree, $3^{d.}$ $4^{d.}$ or $6^{d.}$ for the whole yeare (payed usually at Easter).

It. Ffruits (as apples, pears, nutts, wardens, (walnuts?) plumes, &c.), the tenth measure as they are gathered.

It. Out of dove houses the tenth pigeon.

It. For titheing of every deepware (fishery) $2^{s.}$; of every landware, $12^{d.}$ For theyr mullet netts I have compounded (and others before me) for $3^{s.}$ $4^{d.}$ sometimes $5^{s.}$ sometimes $VI^{s.}$ $8^{d.}$ for the year.*

It. Tith of mill according to ancient custome is due to the vicar. The Finneauxes themselves who were farmers to the personage yet they have paid a composition to the vicar in particular.

FEES.

It. For a marriage cum licentiâ $2^{s.}$ 6, sine licentiâ $18^{d.}$ for a certificate of the banns ijs, (but the ancient duty was but 1^{s} vi., accordinge to the proverbe† "the price of a goose.")

It. For a chrystning at the mother's churchinge, if the childe then be living, half an ell of linen cloth; and a penny if the child

* This is very interesting, and throws light upon a statement which Leland makes, "Yt (Heron) stondeth dim 2 myle fro the mayne shore, and ther is good pitching of nettes for mullettes."—Itin. vol. vii., p. 144.

† "The price of a wife is the price of a goose."

be departed ; 1[d]. only at the mother's comeing to give thanks But the antient duty for chrystning was a crysome (or the face cloth that covered the child at its baptisme), if it lived ; but, if the child died, the minister was to have ij. for the baptizing, and was to loose the face cloth (for that was to wind the child in).

It For burialls nothing.

CHAPTER VII.

Old Wills.

Robert Somersal, 1541.

Robert Somersal by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1541) directed "his body to be buried in the Parish Church of St. Martin Herne, next the sepulchre of John Maycott, being before John's Altar in the said Church." He gave "towards the buying of a Canopy, to bear over the Sacrament going a procession, 20 shillings," and "towards the Cloth to lay over the Brides when they are married, 40 shillings." "To Sir William Michell Janntire (Chantry) Priest of Herne, 20 shillings." He appointed William Fyneux Esq., and William Oxenden Gentle[men] Executors, and Lady Fyneux overseers, of his Will.

John Younge, 1458.

John Younge of Herne by his Will (Consistorial Court, Canterbury, 1458) directed his "body to be buried at Herne," and "gave twelve pence to the High Altar of the Church," and "10 marks towards making the seats called pwynge."

Thomas Bysmer, 1466.

Thomas Bysmer of Herne by his Will (Consistorial Court, Canterbury, 1466) directed his "body to be buried at Herne," and gave "8d. to the High Altar of the Church," "26s. 8d. for one Peace-Kiss of Silver, for the use of the Church on high days," and 13s. 4d. for a pyx to place the Sacrament on the Altar."

William Philip, 1458.

William Philip of Herne, by his Will (Consistorial Court, Canterbury 1458) directed his "body to be buried in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist Herne," and left "3s. 4d. to each of the Parishes of Herne, Swalecliffe, and Whitstable."

Sir Matthew Philip, 1475.

Sir Matthew Philip,* by his will (Prerogative Court, London, 1475), directed his body to be buried in the church of St. Vedast, London, "that is, to witt, under the tomb there where as the body of Joan my wife lyeth buried, if it happen me to deceass in London." He died at Herne, and is buried in the same vault as his wife, Christine.

Among the bequests made is one "to the Wardens and Cōnaltie of the said Crafte of Goldsmythes for poor Almss people of the saide Crafte, £10."

And another of "33s. 4d. to the same crafte for an Obite or Anniversary to be kept yerely for evermore in the Church of Saint Vedast upon the day in which it shall fortune me to deceass, solemnly by note, for my soule, and for the soule of Joan, late my wife, and for all Christian Soules, one placebo and dirige on the Even, and Masse of requiem on the Morrow."

It would appear, from the words which follow, that the conviviality which characterises the City Guilds is of very ancient date.

"And I wolle that, at the saide yerely Obite, there be spente and paide, of the fore saide, 33s. 4d., in a potacion, or recreacion, to be made at Goldesmythe's Hall of London, for the Wardens, and men of the Lyvery of the same Crafte and for priestes, clerkes, of the saide Pish, such as will cum to the saide Obite and potacion in the saide Hall, 13s. 4d."

Sir Matthew died possessed of the Manors of "Hawe" and "Underdowne" (Herne), which he left in trust to John Younge, Knight, Citizen and Alderman of London, Master John Tapton, Clerk, William Hussey, Esq., Thomas Frowyk, Esq., Robert Martyn, "Esq., John Roper, Esq., Roger Brent, and John Andrews, for his wife (*third wife*) Beatrice, and at her death, to his son William."

Sir John Fyneux, 1525-6.

Sir John Fyneux (Prerogative Court, London, by his will 1525), bequeathed "to the Church Works of Hyrne, 100$^{s.}$ . . . and to every of the Vicars of Hyrne, Lynsted, and Sainte Dunstan, 40$^{s.}$, to be prayed for."

"*Item.* I bequethe to William my sonne my Coler of Golde to be delivered to him at his age of 24 . . . "

* I think, son of the last, William, and not, as Stowe records, "son of Arnold Philip, of Norwich."—Survey of London, vol. ii., p. 122.

"*Item.* I will that my household be kept holy (wholly) an hole (whole) yeare next after my death to the intente that my family may provide in that meane tyme for theyr further lyving as they shall think best. . . ."

"*Item.* I wille my saide wife have two basyns, and two ewers, two standyng cuppes, two saltes, and all my spoons, a powder box, a boll gilte, a pece of silver covered, and that pece of the best, at her own choyse" . . "And I give and bequethe to William Fyneux my sonne, and to every of my daughters nowe being on lyve and out of religion, to either of them a basyn and a ewer of silver."

He bequeathed to his wife his Manor of Hawe, and appointed the Prior of Christ Church (Sir John Morton), Lady Fyneux, John Hales (Baron), James Digge (his brother), and John Colman, Executors.

Rev. John Warren, 1538.

Rev. John Warren Vicar (Prerogative Court, London, 1538). "Yf it shall chaunce me to dye in Herne, then I wille my body to be buried without the church porche of the north side of the said Parish Churche, as nygh unto the porche as conveniently may."

The very first step from the Porch into the Church is upon a very remarkable old coffin-shaped stone!

Lady Elizabeth Fyneux, 1539.

Lady Elizabeth Fyneux by her Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1539) desired to be buried "in the high quyre on the south side of the high altar in the Church of Herne," She gave "one hundred marks to be disposed of at her burial and for the keeping of the months day in masses and money fyninge to poor people and other charitable deeds;" and "at her twelve months mind twenty marks" —"to the poor of the parish of Herne, £5"—"to the Vicar of Herne, Master Nicholas Ridley four marks." "To her son William, one of her chalyses, one Mass book, one vestment of crymsyn damask whereupon be sette hers and her husbands arms, with an altar cloth of crymsyn damask and grene,—13 silver spoons, whereof one beareth the pretense of Christe, and the other of the Apostles,"—to "Sir Richard Tyndell, her chaplain, the feather bed that he lyeth upon with all that belongeth to it, and

26$^{s.}$ 8$^{d.}$ so that he be continually in her service and with her at the time of her decease, or else to have nothing." She appointed as her executors "Master John Hales (one of the Barons of the King's Exchequer), Henry Hubbert, Esq$^{re.}$ and Master James Hales."

Edward Monyngs, 1546.*

Edward Monyngs (also spelt Monins) of Waldershare by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1546) devised to "his Son Richard Monyngs, and Katheryne his Wife," his Manor or Messuage "called Reggway (now Ridgway) in the Parish of Herne, and all other and tenements in the said Parish of Herne."

William Fyneux, 1557.

William Fyneux, the Elder, of Herne, Esq. (son and heir of Sir John Fyneux, Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1557), by his Will directed "his body to be buried in the next convenient place of burial where it should please God he should decease." He gave "to the Curate for his painstaking in laying him in the earth 6$^{s.}$ 8$^{d.}$," and to each of "them who should bear him to his burial 20$^{d.}$ To the vicar of Herne if he should die there 6^{s} 8$^{d.}$, and to every clerk there 3$^{s.}$ 4$^{d.}$" To his "wife Frydeswide his Manor House of House of Hawe. To his son John, his lands in the Parishes of Herne, Chislet, Swingfield, Allkham, Lydden, Denton and Wootton, and all the ground sometime belonging to the Chauntry of Herne." He also gave his lands at "St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, Harbledown, Hackington, Sturry, and St. Cosmus Blean, to his son Christopher Fyneux."

Thomas Terrye, 1564.

Thomas Terrye, of Herne, Husbandman, by his will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1564), directed his body to be buried in the Churchyard of Herne. He devised his lands in Herne to his son John at 21 years of age, and if he should die without heirs of his body, then he devised the same to Thomas Arnold of Herne fishermen and his heirs, he paying out of the same £3 yearly to the Churchwardens and four other substantial inhabitants, to be distributed by them to the poor people of the Parish.

John Church, 1571.

John Church, of Herne, by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1571), directed "his body to be buried in the

* See p. 11.

Churchyard of Herne." He gave "to the poor people of Herne two semes of wheat to be distributed amongst them to every one a bodye so far as it would amount."

He devised "his lands and houses to his son William in tail and the remainder to his Nephew George in like manner. If both died without issue, he gave to the poor folks of Herne one half of the profits, and to the Parish Church the other half, to be paid at two several times of the year, viz., at Christmas and Easter."

Richard Terry, 1615.

Richard Terry, of Herne, Yeoman, by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1615), devised "if his two sons John and Thomas should die without heirs male, to the Churchwardens and Supervisors of the poor of this Parish, an annuity or yearly rent of £10 in fee simple, for ever, issuing out of all the lands and tenements by him devised—the remainder to John Selby, the son of his son-in-law John Selby, his Mansion House, and certain premises therein described in Sea Street in Herne, and in the borough of Hampton, and his then dwelling-house at Eddington, and the lands belonging to it, and his house and lands in the borough of Stroud, *the one half of which he devised towards the reparations of the Parish Church, and the other half to the relief of the poor with liberty of distraining.*" And he devised "one other Annuity or yearly rent of 30s. 0d. in fee simple for ever to be yearly paid on the feast of John the Baptist with liberty of distraining."

Sir William Sedley, 1617.

By indenture bearing date 17th September, 1627, between Sir John Sedley, Bart., executor of Sir W. Sedley of the first part, John Welby of the second part, and Robert Knowler and twelve others of the third part, reciting that the said Sir W. Sedley, by his Will bearing date 29th October, 1617, "directed his executors to purchase to the use of the poor of the Parish of Herne an annuity of £3 6s. 8d., and that the said Sir John Sedley, party thereof, had in lieu of the said annuity paid £55 towards the purchasing of the lands thereafter mentioned for the use of the said poor, the said John Welby in consideration of £64, whereof the said £55 was part, and £9 the residue was paid by Robert Knowler and other parties of the third part, being part of a legacy of £20, theretofore given by Sir John Smith to the use of the poor

of the said parish, granted to the parties of the third part and their heirs two pieces of land, theretofore one piece, containing by estimation 10 acres, in Chislet, butting on lands called Spittle Land, North, East, and South, and to the highway West, on trust *that they and their heirs should see the rents and profits yearly bestowed on the poor of the parish*, according to the Will of the said Sir W. Sedley.

"It appears from Table of Benefactions, *put up before* 1791, that *the lands in Chislet consisted of four closes, containing* 9*a.* 2*r.* 29*p.* (an old map framed in the Vestry corroborates this) with a tenement and were let at £7 a year."—*Charity Commissioners' Report, 26th Nov.*, 1836.

For particulars of the application of this Charity see Blean Union, p. 14.

George Hawlet, 1625.
(also Howlet).

George Hawlet, of Herne, Yeoman, by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury), 1625, directed his "body to be buried in the Churchyard of Herne near to the grave of his late wife Thomasine." He gave "40 shillings to be distributed amongst the poor of Herne by the Churchwardens on the day of his burial, and charged his house and lands at Greenhill in the parish of Herne, with the payment of £3 a year *towards the maintenance and relief of the poor for ever of the Parish of Herne.*"

Of this bequest the Charity Commissioners report as follows:—"It is stated on the Table of Benefactions that there was payable £3 yearly from the lands of Mr. Thomas Holbourn, at Green Hill, in Hampton Borough, bequeathed by Mr. George Howlet, 9th April, 1624.

"Search has been made for the Will of George Howlet without success, *but a farm called Greenhill, in Hampton Borough, was purchased in* 1835 *of Henry Worrall, by William Wiggens, of Bridge Street, Blackfriars, on which occasion it was discovered that the premises were subject to this rent-charge, and compensation was made to Mr. Wiggens by a deduction from the purchase money.*

"It does not appear from the Parish accounts up to what period the rent charge was paid, or, how, when received, it was disposed of. Mr. Wiggens has agreed to pay the amount for two years, viz., 1835, when he purchased the land, and 1836."—*Report, 26th Nov.*, 1836.

Christopher Milles, 1638.

Christopher Milles of Herne Esq. by his Will (Consistorial Court of Canterbury, 1638) directed his "body to be buried under a tombstone in the Parsonage Chancel of Herne* between the corpses of his late Wife and his Son Edward, with the less solemnity that the more may be bestowed on my Children the Poor.

"I will and bequeath to my children of Herne £3, of Reculver £4, of Hoath £2, of Westbere £1 a year, in all £10," to be paid the last day of August every year, from year to year, after my decease which was the day of my birth,—to continue as long as it shall please his Grace and successors to continue the lease of the parsonage of Reculver, Hoath, Herne, to any of my surname that one after another shall succeed me in the said parsonage and tytheries, and I pray the Vicars and ministers of Reculver, Hoath and Herne and parsonage of Westbere for the time being and the chief of every parish it concerns, to be petitioners, as cause shall require to his Grace and successors for the poor, in that behalf, as under the well doing of their own children they shall leave here behind them, *and would not the guilt of conscience they else shall hence carry with them for neglecting to gain the charity of the dead towards the living poor so adopted my children.*"

Thomas Knowler, 1658.

"Thomas Knowler, by his Will, 1658, gave land for the use of the poor which is vested in Trustees the survivor unknown, and is of the annual produce of £1 10s. 5d., likewise other land vested in like manner for the clothing of the poor the Annual produce of which is £5."

If those who are interested (and every right-minded parishioner ought to be interested) will carefully peruse the above extracts from Old Wills, the Benefaction Tables (certified copies of the old, taken and placed by the present vicar in the South Chantry Chapel) and also the Reports of the Charity Commissioners, 1836—1873, they will find that these charities have been shamefully neglected, disputed, and in the case of some, even lost. That they remain even in their present unsatisfactory condition, is, in no small degree, owing to the energy and perseverance of Mr. J. Knowler Pembrook, a former churchwarden.

* Commonly called the Milles Chapel, originally the "Lady Chapel" and "Chapel of St. John the Baptist."

And here I conclude with the translation of a Deed of Gift, which proves the existence of a much older church than that now existing.

I am conscious that as a history the work is incomplete; the registers, churchwardens' accounts, &c., being representative only, suited to the general reader.

If, however, it meets with success, it will, perhaps, be followed by another, giving translations of deeds and documents of great antiquity and interest, and an *Account of some Herne Worthies.*

ENDORSED JOSEP xijd.

"Know all men present and to come that I Edmund son of Robert atter Halle of Herne have given and granted and by this my present charter have confirmed twelve pence sterling of my free and annual rent in pure and perpetual alms and for the maintenance of the light before the altar of St. Mary in the chancel of Herne which rent John surnamed Malyne has been used to pay, namely at Easter, from three rods or virgates of land with its appurtenances lying at Joseppeflode between the lands of the heirs of Robert atte Halle on the East and the land of Nicholas the Clerk on the West, heading towards the South to the high way, and towards the North to the land of the heirs of Stephen Underdown: To have and to Hold (for the healing of the souls of myself of my parents of my kinsfolk and of all my benefactors) for the maintenance of the aforesaid light, freely entirely and peacably by hereditary right for ever. And I the aforesaid Edmund and my heirs will in all things warrant and acquit in all things and will defend the aforesaid rent with its appurtenances against the chief lords of the fee and against all men in the matter of all suits and services due therefrom and accustomed to be paid year by year. In witness and confirmation of which thing to this writing, lawfully drawn up in the month of April in the 25th year of King Edward of England (A.D. 1352), my seal is appended. These men being witnesses Richard of the Haghe Robert and John his sons Hamo of Mekymbroke* Nicholas the Clerk John Thomas Henry and Robert of Strode Philip of Northwode Jacob Laurent John atte Weylete Thomas of Chylindenne Geoffrey of Chelde and others."

* See p. 11.

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